

ART AND MUSIC

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JANUARY

1959

First Annual
National
Skin Diver
Convention

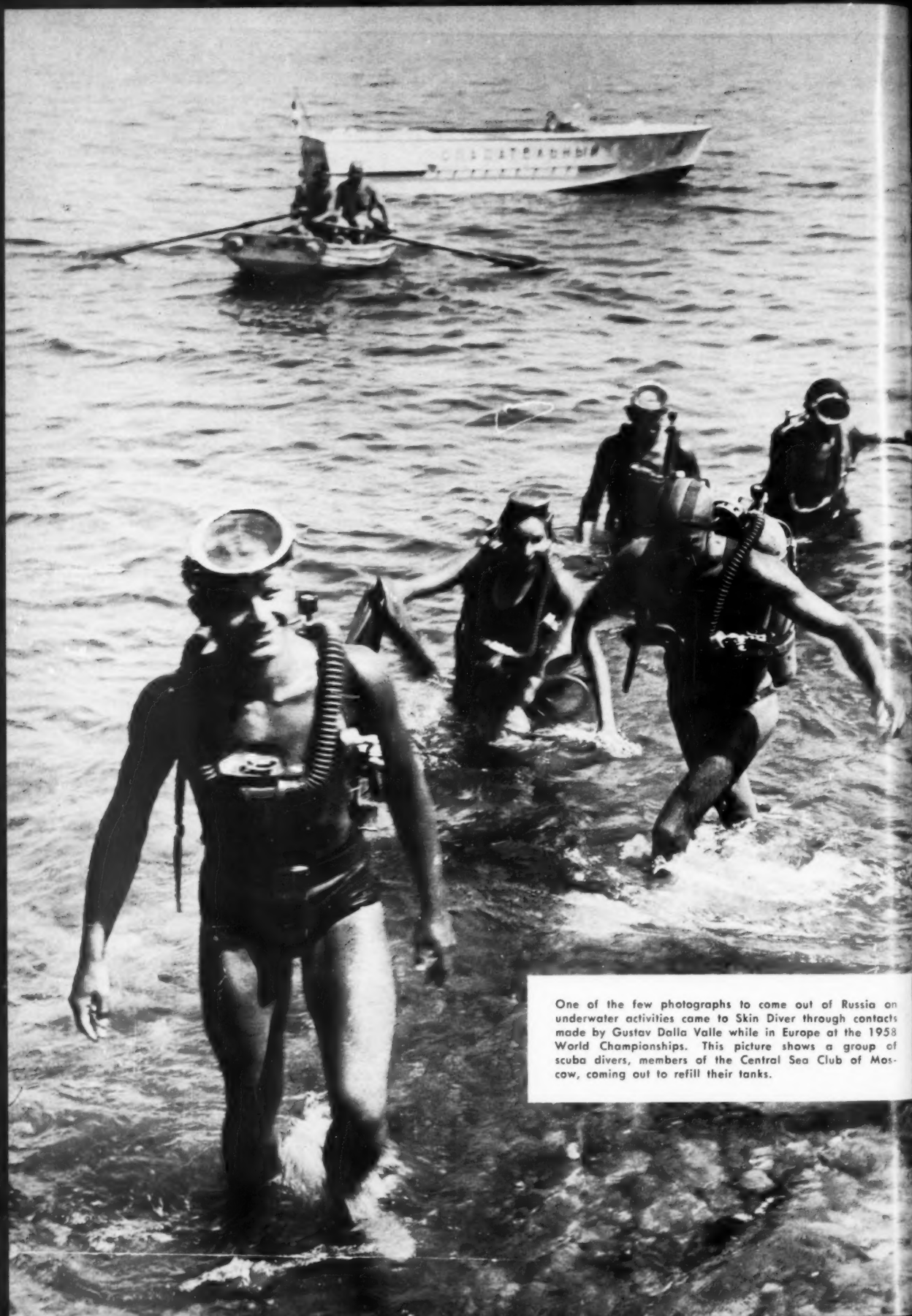
Moray ...
the
killer eel

Search for the
Loch Ness
Monster

"Silent
Enemy"

SKIN DIVER

M A G A Z I N E



One of the few photographs to come out of Russia on underwater activities came to Skin Diver through contacts made by Gustav Dalla Valle while in Europe at the 1958 World Championships. This picture shows a group of scuba divers, members of the Central Sea Club of Moscow, coming out to refill their tanks.

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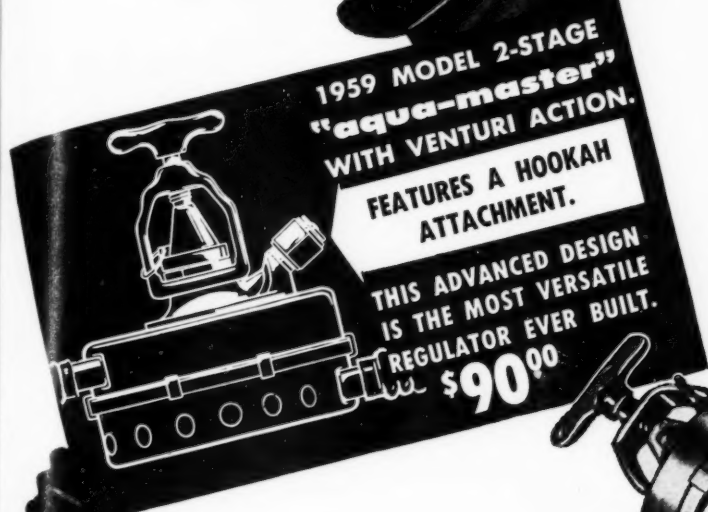
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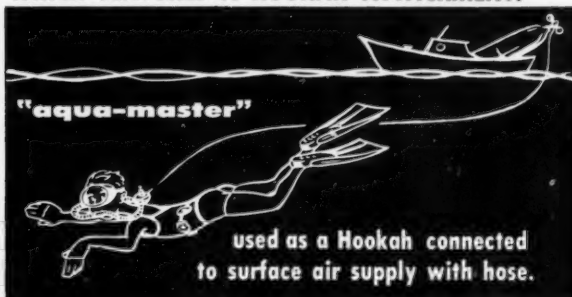
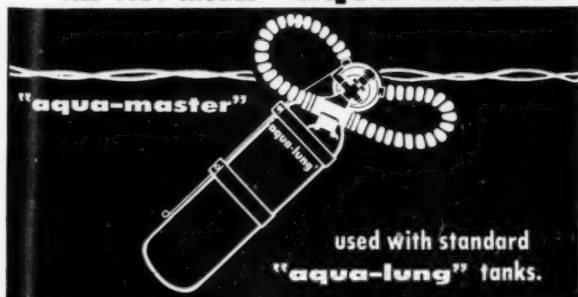
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notes

By AL TILLMAN

In the Los Angeles County Underwater program, which was given birth in 1953, public officials of the Dept. of Parks and Recreation were and are more basically concerned with the phenomenal statistics of diving; somewhere between 5 and 8 million skin divers in the U.S., approximately 150,000 in Los Angeles County, and 25,000 divers processed in Los Angeles County certified classes in five years. The staff of the Underwater Section of the Department of Parks and Recreation is concerned with operational details of dozens of separate program items such as certificating divers and instructors, the Junior Frogmen program, experimental workshops, technical seminars, film festivals, club consultation services, lectures and demonstrations, diving publications and a Mask and Fins Society for upper ten agers. In turn, a Board of Directors advisory to the staff and representing over 150 Los Angeles County Certified Instructors, is concerned with high standards, prestige and dignity of the aforementioned activities.

This would not appear to indicate that anyone was especially interested in the individual diver's survival and pleasurable experience while participating. This is far from the truth for every aspect of the program is steeped in the philosophy of concern for the individual, but there is a dual responsibility. The individual diver can not be an "island unto himself." The functioning of a reputable agency in coordinating training, legislation, competition, conservation, recreation, and organizational aspects of the field must as a parallel be supported by the individual diver on the field itself shall revert to chaos as any large mass function will that resists benevolent and democratic guidance.

It follows that as the individual diver cannot isolate himself from the problems of the diving society as a whole, neither can a local area or region shelter itself and merrily pursue its local operation without concern for happenings elsewhere. It also follows that a local area should develop a strong home rule program before being presumptuous enough to step forward and attempt to guide the thinking and attitudes on a national basis.

Los Angeles County is stepping forward at this time in the interests of national standardization of skin diving training. A successful regional program has operated with visible and recognized results for some five years under the stable guidance of Los Angeles County government and with the support of all existing local agencies and organizations. There have been, exist and will continue to exist certain internal operational problems, personality conflicts, and erratic coordination of the efforts of various diving organizations, but the basic philosophy, operational procedures, objectives and results have proven desirable and productive by the support of a public transcending 5,000,000 in number.

This has been a rather long build-up to the announcement of the Provisional Certification now available to qualified individuals outside the Los Angeles County jurisdiction. The requirement for such certification are available through Underwater Recreation, 834 W. Olympic, Los Angeles 15, California. It is also a pleasure to announce the National Underwater Instructors Certification Institute to be held in August of 1959. The purpose of both of these closely related products is to provide the opportunity for qualified persons representing responsible regional agencies to acquire the necessary background and authority for the establishment of a home-rule certification program in their own communities. It would be a program based upon time-tested successful information and standardization that would be honored across the United States. It is possible by working together to make the skin diving story one of the "happy ever after" variety.

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january cover

The Moray Eel, one of the most respected denizens. This spectacular photograph was made by Jack McNeal off Cress Street in Laguna Beach, California. McNeal took many top honors in the recent Underwater Film Festival. The eel was about ten inches away from the lens in this picture. Jack used a 35mm Contina 1A with close-up lens, depth was approximately 35 feet.

SKIN DIVER—January 1959

LETTERS

... I should be very glad if you could help me procure a contact with an underwater club in the United States with which I could exchange questions and information about our underwater sport. I am a leader for an underwater club in Stockholm, Sweden, the name is Højens Sportdykarclub (Shark Skin Diving Club).

Slig Isaksson
Hammerstaven 112
Enskede 4, Stockholm
Sweden

... I would appreciate very much any information that active diving clubs could send me on starting and maintaining a successful skin diving club. There are about fifteen of us interested in such a club, but we don't want to join the ranks of the unsuccessful ones.

George E. Mangarelli
Clifton Aqua Divers
25 Vale Avenue
Clifton, New Jersey

... in the article "Sesimbra Disadventure" (Nov. '58) Gustav Dalla Valle states that the "British" team were placed eleventh. In a great many people's thoughts here, this was not a British team in any way. All were members of the British Sub-Aqua Club, all were English members and all came from the extreme south of England. No Scottish, Irish or Welsh divers? It was only an English team therefore.

I have nothing personally against the divers who took part, but put the blame on the people who picked the team. As for being placed eleventh, this should not have been so, as conditions actually favored the English divers instead of the Mediterranean skin divers or was it really that the other teams were vastly superior because of the ways in which their teams were picked and trained.

Walter C. Deas, Scotland
(Experience and training gave the leading teams their victories. The 1958 meet was the first for the British Sub-Aqua Club.)

... SD is amazingly well read. Tucked away in the "Northeast Notes" was a reference to the Sea Rovers Instructor Certification Course and my name and address. The mail has been pouring in—all from beyond New England. Each letter asks for more information and states that the writer's club is desirous of setting up such a course in their own area. It's a very healthy and natural evolution in a growing sport, to have better teaching which we all can trust.

Fort Lauderdale's John Jones sent in their outlines for three courses. This set of courses, excellently put together, is based on the Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation set-up which is the mother-course of all of them.

Skin Diver Magazine has helped bring together a group within the sport which will have an enormous long range effect on the generations of divers yet to come.

Walter Feinberg—Boston Sea Rovers
135 Ridge Avenue
Newton Centre 59, Mass.

(There's that address again.)

SKIN DIVER—January 1959

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The SILENT ENEMY

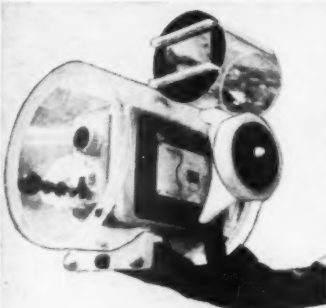
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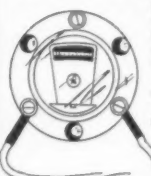
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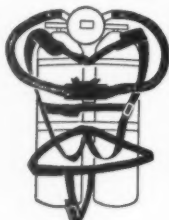
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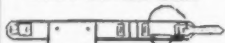
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LETTERS

... reading SD for the month of November I came across the article about a skin diver recovering the body of a Navy Reservist whose F2F tracker plane plunged into Delaware Bay. The F2F went out of commission at least twenty years ago. It should have been an S2F tracker. I am familiar with this type aircraft as I am on an aircraft carrier and the S2F is what we carry.

Besides that your magazine is the best I've come across. It is sure recommended to all Navy divers. We have a skin diving club on the ship called the Imperial Squids.

Al Cito
U.S.S. Antietam

... I am a keen reader of SD and am a member of the South Canterbury Sub-Aqua Club. I have a Pêche-Sport suit and a twin cylinder lung and am starting to build a case for a Super Paxette 35mm camera. Would like to correspond with divers interested in photography and could give me a few hints on what to do and what not to do.

John Bain
7 College Road
Timaru, New Zealand

... what's all this talk about needing a license to skin dive? Is it another idea to get us to shell out more dough for nothing? It is supposed to keep people who really don't know enough about the sport from killing themselves. In that case we need a license for walking across the street or just plain swimming, both of which take their share of lives from people who don't do them properly. A license won't mean you're a safe diver. Millions of people have drivers licenses, but they don't know how to drive. Take a look at the traffic toll. I say a license won't help, only hinder skin diving.

Let's organize against the organizers of this proposal. Let them dig if they are looking for a gold mine.

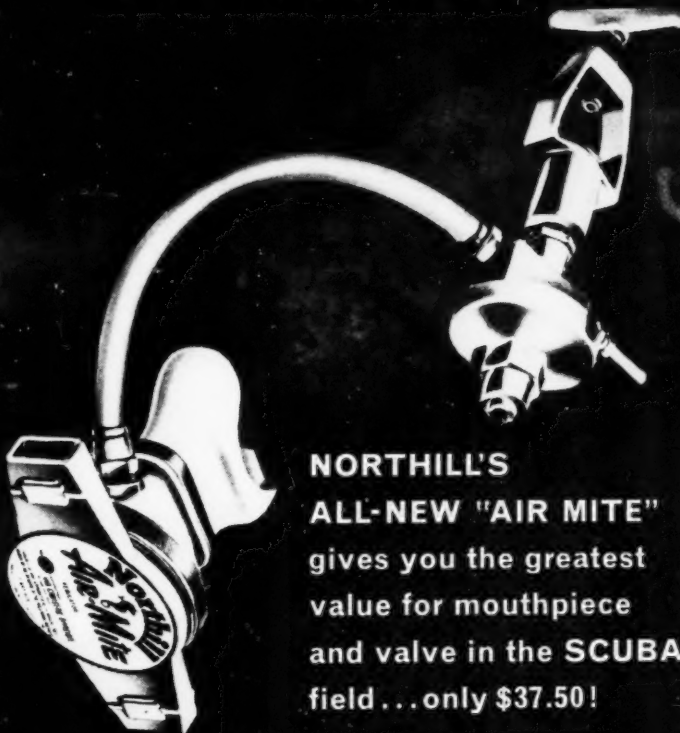
Donald E. Kiffel
Chicago, Illinois

... for a long time I was afraid I wasn't going to get to the South Seas. We left Honolulu July 12, then to Tahiti where we spent three months visiting the Societies and the Tuomotus. We are now (11-5-58) in the Marquesas, more or less on our way home. Skin diving is really terrific in the Societies but the big fish are a long way from the populated areas. In the Tuomotus things are different and big fish are all over the place. The same with sharks. I think I have never seen so many big sharks in as small an area as some of the Tuomotus. Whenever I read of a place that is "infested" with sharks I will always think of those islands. Shark deaths in this area are frequent with the swimmers who gather shells and lobster.

We will probably leave here in two or three days for San Diego. If the winds are kind we will make the trip in 35 to 40 days. If the winds are unkind we will veer off and proceed to Honolulu for the winter. Time will tell.

E. R. Cross
Schooner "Four Winds"

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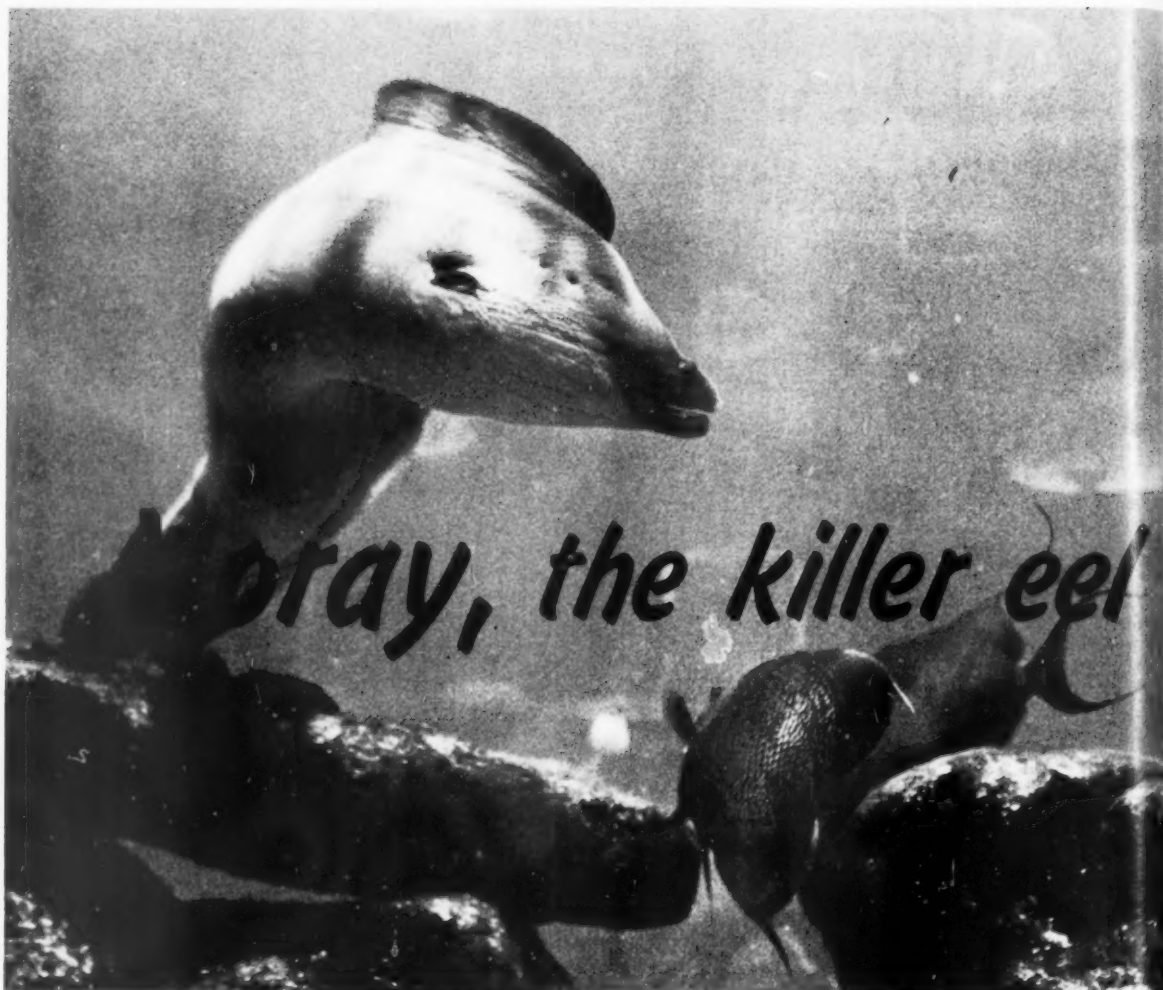
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Moray, the killer eel

A SNAKE like creature darted out of a rock crevice, grabbed a twenty pound bass and in one swoop cut the fish in half. It then disappeared back into the crevice while thousands of small fish that always infest tropical waters rushed down to make a meal of the remaining bits.

I witnessed this life and death drama while I was skin diving in the Florida Keys. Soon I noticed my partner making furious motions to get out of the area and later I learned that I had seen my first moray eel in action. There are divers who would rather tangle with sharks or barracudas than be attacked by a moray.

A moray eel is an eel that lurks at the bottom of waters throughout the world. They are by nature vicious creatures who hole up in a rock crevice or jagged coral reef lying in wait for prey. When they enter a rock crevice or a hole they will slither into it tail first so that they are in that spring like position ready to strike forth. Their attack is lightning fast and is usually fatal to its victim. Because these eels are totally indiscriminate as to whether they attack a warm blooded body or a fish they are dangerous to divers.

Mr. F. Wood Jr., curator for the famous Marine Studios at Marineland Florida, refers to moray eels as "Rattlesnakes of the Deep." He says, "The moray has a reputation for

viciousness." He goes on to tell of some of the most terrifying fights of the coral reefs in these terms, "Some morays feed largely on octopuses and have developed a unique way of coping with the clinging tentacles of their prey. When the octopus wraps its arms about the body of the eel, the moray immediately ties itself into a knot and draws its body through the loop formed, thus dislodging the tentacles while it takes another bite."

Over 120 species of moray eels are known to exist in the world. They range in size from the small spotted moray which inhabits the Southern coastal water of the United States and attains a maximum size of 2 feet to the brown moray who strikes fear into the natives of the Polynesian Islands and attains a size of over 10 feet in length. Other species include the yellow spotted moray, who ranges from the American Pacific water to the African coast, the black speckled moray lives in water from the Polynesian Islands to Africa and the famous brown-marbled moray, the terror of the deep in the Hawaiian Islands. These species for the most part attain a size of about three feet but some will grow much larger.

The green moray is the largest of the species which inhabits United States coastal waters. It reaches a maximum size of about six feet. Sometimes a green moray will range as far north as New Jersey. It is interesting to note that the

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green moray's skin is not green at all but is a blue grey. This specie is covered with a thick slime which is a brilliant yellow. The combination produces the characteristic green or chartreuse coloration of the green moray eel.

The one singular item that probably has saved more divers lives when in moray eel water is the fact these eels, like other eels, seldom strike any object that is not near the bottom. A moray eel's strike is totally without warning and is lightning fast. One skin diver who had a run in with a small one explained them as the fish with the guillotine

By HEINZ ULRICH

mouth. This is about the most accurate description available because a moray has dozens of razor sharp scissor teeth in the front of its mouth that are capable of tearing skin and bone completely apart. In the rear of its mouth the fish has a complete set of molars ready to grind any meat it gets. Some people claim these fish are poisonous but that is false; what actually exists is that in the mouth of a moray eel is a slime that covers the whole mouth and teeth of the fish which is not in itself poisonous but is so highly infectious that it has become to be believed so.

In spite of all the dangers already listed the most fearful part of a moray's anatomy is his jaws. For the fish's size his jaws are small but they are one of the strongest set of jaws of any living creature. Experiments have been conducted where a piece of steel will be put in a captured moray's mouth and time after time the eel will smash at the steel. The fish will completely break its teeth on the steel and will sometime hit it so hard that it will drive its own teeth completely through its mouth.

Another example of the strength of these fish is the experience of Dr. John F. Storr, a great naturalist. He was on an expedition in the Bahamas collecting fish and photographing species of the reefs for study. During this time they speared a giant moray which after very careful handling they threw up on the beach. After several hours the fish was taken for dead. To test it Dr. Storr put a broom stick in its mouth. The apparently dead moray closed its mouth and snapped that broom stick in two like a toothpick. That expedition acquired even more respect for these dangerous fish.

Moray eels for the most part feed at night when they leave their crevices and holes and swim slowly about the bottom of the coral reefs looking for prey. During the day they use the ambush method of attack from their hiding places while at night they sally forth from their holes looking for food. A moray's attack is always swift and usually fatal with the fish preferring to sneak up on its prey and then in one swoop finishing it. If a victim should be lucky enough to survive the opening attack they then find themselves confronted with an enemy who fight like a wild bulldog—the eel then takes a grip and holds on until its victim succumbs. Divers, lucky enough to survive a moray's attack agree that quick action and a sharp knife is what can save you. Some tell the story that they actually had to cut the fish off them to break that hold so they could escape.

Jordan Klein, president of Underwater Sports, Inc. and skipper of the Miami charter yacht, the Mako, which specializes taking groups out underwater exploring in the Florida Keys and the Bahamas has been diving since 1937. Because of the time he spends underwater some people consider him more fish than man. He says that he never was attacked by a moray eel that was not first provoked. Then he goes on to say that these eels consider any hole or ledge

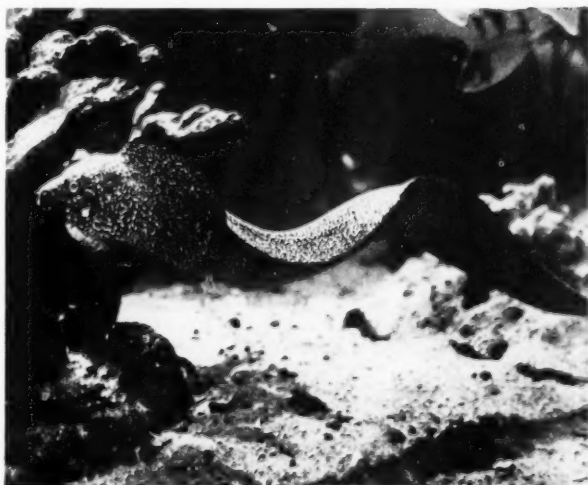
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Photos: Marine Studios, Marineland, Fla.



Jordan Klein



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"The Silent Enemy"

IT is 1941 and Britain is sustaining enormous losses fighting a war on three fronts against an ever increasing Axis power. To add to the toll inflicted by submarine attack, the Italians have produced a new refinement of warfare—Frogmen—an intrepid band of men, who travel astride "chariots," small torpedo like vessels, and attach explosive charges to the hulls of ships below the water line. Britain has already lost two battleships and a number of merchant vessels to these men, mostly in the Mediterranean, the life line of the British Army in the desert.

A young Naval Lieutenant, Lionel "Buster" Crabb, an expert in mine and bomb disposal is sent to Gibraltar to try and combat this dangerous new threat to the convoys sheltering in the harbor of the "Rock". Crabb sets to work to master the technique of underwater operations and soon becomes an astute diver. The team locate many explosives which they render harmless.

Four miles away in Spanish Algerciras, living in a private house, are members of a unit of the Italian Tenth Flotilla frogmen Tomolino, who are responsible for the new fearful underwater menace to Allied shipping.

The enemy step up their campaign and ships continue to be sunk. When a plane, carrying a V.I.P. and an important brief case containing war plans, crashes into the Straits, the team is sent to retrieve what they can. The Italians have had the same idea and both teams meet underwater where there is a hand to hand battle with knives.

After cutting at each other's breathing pipes and generally trying to kill each other, the British manage to save the case, leaving the dead and wounded Italians behind.

The above is only a partial-synopsis of one of the most exciting and action packed underwater epics that has been released to the public about the wartime "frogmen".

Ironically enough, the sensational discovery of a body in the sea near Portsmouth harbor in England, which was later identified as Commander Lionel Crabb, Royal Naval Diver and expert frogman, came practically on the same day that Romulus Films began work on the motion picture of his life, "The Silent Enemy," a Universal-International release starring Laurence Harvey, Dawn Addams, John Clements and Michael Craig.

For some time producers had been planning the project which deals with Crabb's exploits during World War II only. Full Naval cooperation had been obtained, the survivors of Crabb's wartime team had been interviewed, and even their old enemies, the intrepid frogmen of Italy's Tenth Flotilla had been consulted.

Locations in Malta and Gibraltar were arranged; Malta because the clarity of the water made underwater photography possible, and Gibraltar because it was here that Crabb operated.

The highlights of Crabb's early wartime career deal with his exploits as a mine disposal expert and his efforts to

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Film

Riding underwater "torpedo-chariots" Italian warriors set out to destroy British battleships in the Mediterranean in this scene from "The Silent Enemy." How they were thwarted by the famed frogman Commander Crabb is the basis for this exciting account of his service life.

A British undersea soldier makes his attack on the Italian frogman in "The Silent Enemy." The British, developing their frogman units as a defensive weapon, were not prepared and their equipment was primitive in the days of battle at Gibraltar. Note goggles and escape gear.



counteract the enemy Italian frogmen by training his demolitions men to be frogmen also. It is this area that the picture covers.

At Malta the entire unit spent six weeks with crack underwater cameraman Egil Woxholt photographing the exciting deep-sea underwater sequences which are a stand-out feature of the film. Top Royal Naval divers were dressed in the now familiar black rubber Italian frogmen suits to re-enact many of the graphic undersea fights and incidents which happened during Crabb's career.

Bad weather, stirring the sea bottom and making camera visibility poor, held up production several times as did swarms of jellyfish, each armed with a painful stinger, that attacked cast and crew unmercifully.

Another dangerous factor in filming the screen biography was the use of actual Italian "chariots," torpedo-like craft that operate above and below the water surface, transporting frogmen to and from their destinations. So sensitive was their mechanism that a change in the temperature was enough to send them—and their passengers—hurtling to the ocean bottom.

These chariots, unlike the more widely recognized land type of Biblical days, were invented by the Italians during World War II. They were long torpedo-like craft capable of carrying two frogmen astride and were designed for underwater and surface use with a powerful warhead in the nose detachable for clamping onto the hulls of ships below the water line. They were responsible for devastating losses in Allied battleships and convoys at Gibraltar.

Replicas of these chariots were built to exact specifications and were used extensively in the underwater sequences of the Universal-International Release. In Malta, where most of the underwater shooting took place, the three chariots were duly commissioned and named Nelli 3, 4 and 5. They were all driven by Italian actors recreating wartime Italian frogmen.

At the completion of the film, these deadly sea weapons were given to the British Royal Navy and it is expected they will be used as part of their experimental fleet.

"The Silent Enemy" stars Laurence Harvey as Commander Crabb, Dawn Addams, John Clements, Michael Craig and the beautiful Italian star Gianna Maria Canale.

The exploits of Commander Crabb, The Frogman, Filmed in the depths of the Mediterranean A Universal-International Release

Here is one of the startling moments of hand-to-hand underwater combat between British and Italian dare-devil warriors to be seen in the soon-to-be-released film. Actors and underwater swimmers from both countries were used in the production of the movie about Commander Crabb.



First Annual

NATIONAL CONVENTION OF SKIN DIVERS

WITH thousands of men and women entering the sport of skin diving each year, a national organization to promote the enactment of greater safety measures for the skin diver is very important. Such an organization will bring about a greater unity among divers, and this should help to clear up misunderstandings and misconceptions about the sport.

The members of the Northeast Council, sponsors of the First Annual National Convention of Skin Divers, feel that a national organization is a vital necessity. This council is comprised of thirty-three member clubs from four New England states.

With the background and years of experience in its total membership, the Northeast Council is showing itself to be energetic, foresighted and purposeful in organizing and sponsoring the First Annual National Convention of Skin Divers. They realize that there are many things which may be done for the betterment of the sport through a national organization.

NATIONAL OFFICERS — CONSTITUTION

One of the things that this council hopes to see is the formation of a national organization of councils,



Executive Committee of the First Annual National Convention of Skin Divers. Left to right are Brad Luther, Dick Myers, Lennie Saarinen and Jack Whelan.

clubs and independent divers, headed by a group of conscientious men as national officers and directors. They hope that a Constitution and By-Laws will be formulated.

STANDARDIZATION COURSE OF INSTRUCTION

Secondly, the council feels the necessity for a nationally standardized course of instruction for novices in the sport. This, of course, would also necessitate a standardized course for instructors, who, upon successful completion of same, would be certified by a national board of examiners. The organization could then hope for the cooperation of diving manufacturers and dealers in urging that purchasers of the diving lung take a certified course of instruction in the use of the equipment.

LEGISLATION

Too, it is hoped that a committee may be set up to investigate anti-skin diving legislation and seek to remedy the causes which have made such legislation necessary.

DIVING MEDICINE

Many of the Northeast Council members hope to see resolutions passed so that, with the cooperation of the American Medical Association, a minimum number of hours of study in diving and space medicine may be included in the curriculum of approved medical schools.

There are certainly many other purposes for which a national organization can stand, it is true. But, at least, the Northeast Council is taking the first step towards the unification of the skin divers throughout the country. With your support, and your presence at the convention, we can organize a strong federation of divers to make the sport a more enjoyable and safer one for everybody.

Bradford Hotel - Boston, Massachusetts - February 21-22, 1959

Convention Registration Committee
6 Minot St., Stoneham 80, Mass.

Hotel Reservation Blank
on Page 42

What is a skin diver?

By RICOU BROWNING

BETWEEN a boy's first waterfight and a tottering old man we find a delightfully unpredictable creature called a Skin Diver. Skin Divers come in assorted sizes, but all of them have the same creed. To enjoy every second of every minute of every hour of every dive and to violently protest when the sun sinks beneath the horizon and it becomes too dark to dive. Skin Divers are found nearly everywhere; on beaches, bragging in offices, swimming pools, swamps, sporting goods stores, conservation meetings, Sunday schools, showers, back rooms and board meetings. Mothers love them, young girls admire them, little boys worship them, brothers and sisters tolerate them, the boss envies them, wives' hate them and heaven protects them.

A Skin Diver is truth with water in his ear, beauty with

coral poison on its finger, wisdom with nature as its God, and hope of the future with goodwill toward man.

When you are busy, a Skin Diver is thinking of air embolism, bends and air compressors. When you want him to make a good impression on a client, he may talk only of the diving trip he made to the Keys, the way he speared the 10 foot shark, the clear water at Silver Springs or the prospects of his newest underwater camera.

A Skin Diver is a composite—he is content with "Rat" cheese, sardines, and crackers for lunch in a boat, but his ulcer has to be pampered with a special diet when he's home. He will drink from any old stream without question. He has the energy of a hurricane when he starts swimming, although in the office it tires him to walk to the pay window. He has the lungs of a dictator when he yells "deep six it," although his secretary complains that he whispers all the time. He has the imagination of Commander Byrd as he scans the ocean bottom for sunken treasure. He shows the audacity of a steel trap as he swims in midwinter, oblivious of the cold chills down his back bone. He has the enthusiasm of a firecracker as he hunts every coral bed and when he does find a big fish he has forgotten to cock his spear gun.

He likes dirty swimming trunks, old boats, hunting knives, torn exposure suits, long weekends, clear water, all kinds of aquatic life, unshaven faces, unexplored springs and questionable companions who also are Skin Divers. He is not much for special gatherings, jelly fish neckties, sea urchins, educational books, weekend company, barbers, people who post waters, and clients who don't dive. Without thought of race, creed, or color he likes people who dive at least three months out of a year and talk about it twelve. Nobody else is so early to rise or so late to supper in good diving weather. Nobody else gets so much fun out of chasing turtles, exploring caves and getting water up his nose—nobody else can cram into one pocket a rusty knife, extra

(Continued on page 39)



SEARCH FOR THE LOCH NESS MONSTER



Alan Doyle in foreground, and Geoff Wilson, both of Dundee, Scotland, emerge from the Loch after a dive.

The dark, whiskey-colored waters of Loch Ness kept their secret despite the probings of the Scottish frogmen. Walt Deas adds his chapter to the endless truth-or-fiction story of the legendary Monster of Loch Ness.

The first account of a monster in Loch Ness is recorded in the writings of Adamnan about 565 A.D. when he tells of a huge water creature having been seen by St. Columbia while he was preaching in the land of the Picts. Since that day the monster has been seen many times. The twentieth century brought the era of publicity and reports of a monster in Loch Ness have spread throughout the world. It has been seen by so many reliable and disinterested witnesses that the existence of some huge water animal unknown to science in the waters of the Loch cannot be dismissed as a figment of the imagination.

Loch Ness is 24 miles long and averages one mile in breadth. The maximum depth is 754 ft. at a point about one

mile due south of Castle Urquhart which is roughly midway and on the west side of the Loch. A notable fact about Loch Ness is that it never freezes. This is due to the vast amount of water—263,000 million cu. ft. of it—in the

By Walt Deas

(From NCR Factory Post)

Loch and its comparatively small surface area. The water on the bottom never grows colder than 42°F., and as the surface water gets colder than the water immediately below, the warmer water is always rising to the surface. It has been calculated that the quantity of heat set free by Loch Ness during the cold season is equal to the heat that would be set free by the combustion of about two-and-a-half million tons of coal. This fact accounts for the mildness of the winter around the shores of the Loch and explains why snow never lies on the ground for any length of time.

It was on Loch Ness in the late summer of 1952 that John Cobb made an attempt on the world water speed record. His boat *Crusader* was based at Temple Pier. Tragedy however struck

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on September 29, and John Cobb was killed when his boat blew up after traveling at 206 m.p.h.

DIVING EXPEDITION

The chance remark of a local news reporter led to the organizing of a diving expedition to seek photographic evidence of the Loch Ness monster. Those of us who participated knew the chances were rare but we reckoned we had as much chance as any other group or expedition. And so, one week-end this past summer, members of the following clubs met at Temple Pier, Urquhart Bay—The Dundee Undersea Research Group, the Dundee Sub-Aqua Club and the Edinburg Sub-Aqua Club.

No serious work was carried out on the Saturday, the divers only surveying the shallows. The water, though not very warm, was bearable and the color of whisky but I am sorry to say it did not have the same taste. A few large salmon were seen and an old empty safe and a key belonging to the owner of the pier, were found.

On the Sunday, the contingent of divers assembled on the rocky shore below Castle Urquhart, the ruins of which provide an excellent vantage point from which to survey the Loch. It is interesting to note that the first records of a castle at Strone go back to the twelfth century. During the Scottish Wars of Independence it played an important part as a fortress in the resistance to Edward I and after the wars it passed into the possession of the Crown. In 1509 it was granted by James IV to the Grants of Freuchie (Strathspey) in whose possession it remained for many long years. As a fortress its usefulness was destroyed when the gatehouse was blown-up at the

After removing their diving equipment following an expedition in Loch Ness, Walt Deas, right, and Alan Doyle swap experiences.



end of the seventeenth century. A great deal of the stone work was found by the divers lying on the narrow shelf that lies underwater at the foot of the Castle.

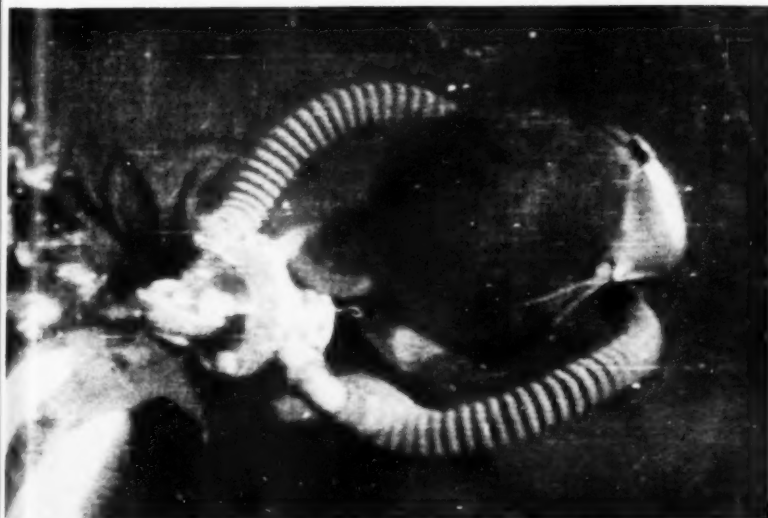
From boats, the divers entered the water in twos for safety reasons, and explored the spurred and scarred sides of the Loch as they plunged giddily downwards to the deep bottom. The skin divers were then in a world of their own—a world of peaty water penetrated by pale yellowish shafts of sunlight. As one diver remained at a higher level, the other took to the lower depth, striking out with easy speed past a few stationary salmon. At length, they headed down into darker depths where the silence seemed greater but they saw nothing to disturb the tranquility. One could, however, feel the tension as they were very much on the alert for anything unusual. A sudden flare of light erupted from one of the divers—it was only the flash on his underwater camera as he recorded his fellow diver. So they continued exploring, gliding fur-

ther down, swimming past monstrous overhanging rocks and through and around waterlogged trees, with an exhaust trail of air bubbles flying to the surface. It was the trail of bubbles that the small boat on the surface followed in case a diver surfaced in need of help or through having run out of air.

The surf on the distance shore made a rustle like lace moving while a thousand feet above, two eagles made endless circles and surveyed the bay through telescopic eyes. The trees along the cliffs could have been carved out of metal and the forest-wrapped hills were petrified clouds of green. A look-out leaned over the side of the boat; he was looking for an outline, the form of a diver surfacing and he stared over the water straining his eyes for signs of air bubbles breaking the surface.

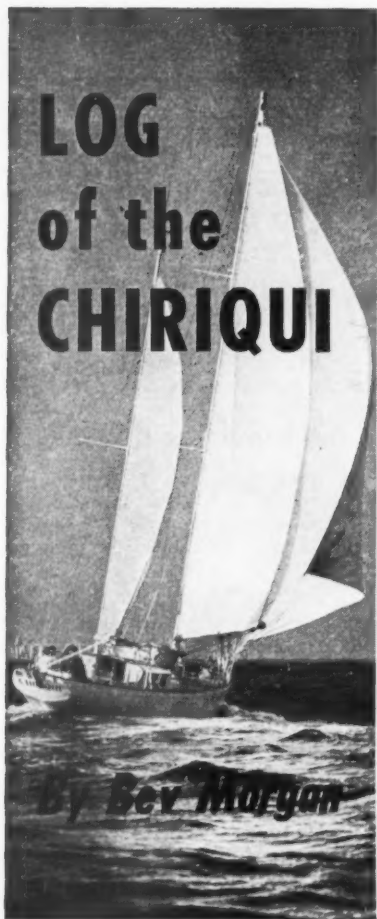
As they swam down the cliff, the currents were stronger, the light poorer, the water a dark brown. A current drifted them along a terrace on the cliff with nothing to break the silence but the mewing of their exhaust valves. Suddenly they found themselves opposite an opening in the rock face. It was too dark to enter. The recesses of the cliff were buried in darkness and it would take divers, many, many days to explore them all. With groping hands, pale as those of a corpse, a diver felt for his pressure gauge and drew it to his mask. It read well below the danger mark. A touch on the shoulder of the other diver and they started the vertical climb to the surface, and in a matter of minutes they broke water. A shout was heard and a rowing boat hastened towards them and they were hauled out of the water where they removed their gear. Ashore and with a good hot drink inside them, the divers related their adventures to their fellow-explorers.

Although no trace was found of the Loch Ness monster, the divers enjoyed the experience and in the near future hope to dive again in the dark and mysterious waters of Loch Ness.



An adventuresome diver cautiously peers through the darkness at the entrance of an underwater cavern in Loch Ness. Imagine the suspense and pounding heartbeats as he looks for the hundreds-of-years-old serpent to come charging out of the blackness towards him.

LOG of the CHIRIQUI



The story thus far: Seven divers are voyaging along the Pacific Coast of Mexico, bound for the islands in the South Pacific. Last month they had more shark experiences around the penal islands "Tres Marias". While filming the fish and animals of the islands all of the divers experienced close-shaves with white tips, white and gray shark. The "Chiriqui" sailed further south along the Mexican coast to the fabled city of Acapulco.

ACAPULCO

"Log of the Chiriqui" will be featured each month as the ocean yacht sails to new diving areas in the Pacific . . .

WE WERE at Tres Marias seven weeks and had many more encounters. Each dive drew the presence of at least one shark. Out of the summary of all these events we came to these conclusions:

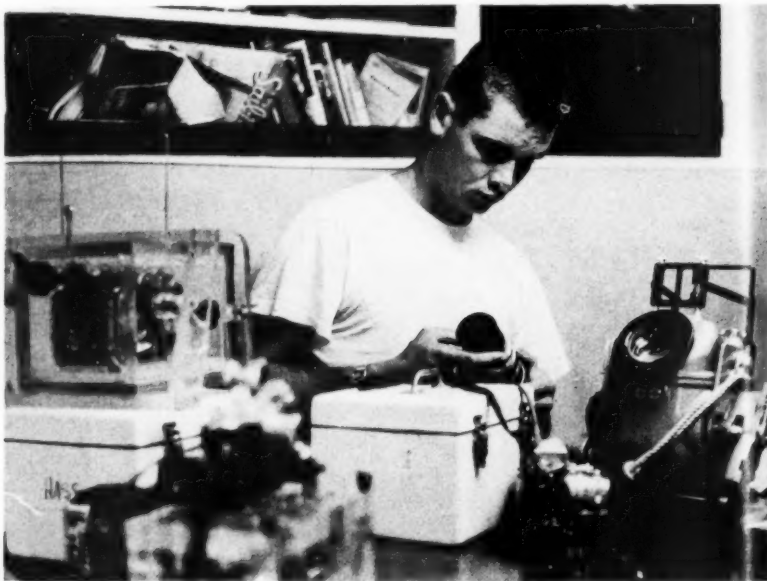
1. Compared to other encounters of modern free divers that have been recorded, the sharks we had met with so far were more aggressive.
2. In these waters, a man is in danger from shark attack whenever he enters the water.
3. A diver equipped with scuba is in less danger, the sharks are very reluctant to approach him usually, but not always.
4. Every precaution should be taken to aid in the safety of the man underwater. We always carry some object to fend off the shark, either a gun, camera, or short stick (shark billy).
5. Always keep a boat overhead, (or anything that you can get entirely out of the water into, i.e. Rubber liferaft).
6. Don't spear fish or enter dirty water. If you can see a large number of sharks about, don't enter the water.
7. Never provoke an attack, leave the sharks alone if possible. Even if

you could penetrate their skin with a knife (you can't), a shark could kill you without a vital organ left in his body. If you think not, haul one on deck and gut him, then throw him into the sea. He will die after a while of course, but not before he could kill a man.

One evening we cleared the decks and hoisted the anchor. The main sail and mizzen carried us clear of the Tres Marias, then the spinnaker bellied out over the bow, pulling the Chiriqui on toward the South Seas. A few days later we were encountering bad head winds. The wind speed indicator read 58 mph when we decided to put into a port for a rest. After a short layover at Zihuatanejo we pushed on to Acapulco.

Here a bit of a confession is in order. Not one of the crew went diving at Acapulco. After two months of being at sea, the bright lights of the big city engulfed us. The crew of the Chiriqui burned their candles at both ends for five days. I did check into the local diving stores, however. There are two in town. One, the "Manta Raya" is strictly rentals and air refills. The other, "Aqua Mundo" has a complete selection of equipment for rental and sale. The former owners, Jack Gilbert and John Kelley, have sold out to Patricia Brown. Two brothers, Reginaldo and Alfonso Arnold are the instructors for the store. I talked to Reginaldo (Reggi) about the local conditions. He told me that even during the rainy season (July-August) the water was usually clean. The fish they hunt are the group-

(Continued on page 35)



Ramsay Parks in the main salon of the "Chiriqui" cleaning and inspecting the camera gear. Hasselblad camera and case is on his right and the familiar Rolleimarine on his left.

Looking back to

LA PAZ

By Chuck Nicklin



Bob Casebolt and Chuck Nicklin with their prize Pez Fuerte weighing 65 and 120 pounds. This fish is abundant in La Paz waters and is one of the fighting fish of the tuna family.

Gliding down the side of a reef through clouds of bright colored fish, a new thrill at every dive. Eagle rays swimming in gin clear water like jets in formation. A 300 lb. black sea bass lolling in 15 feet at 80° water, grey shadows at the rim of visibility curious and perhaps waiting for a free fish (or human) dinner. These are but a few of the memories I brought back from our trip to La Paz and fabulous Espiritu Santo Islands.

Just over a year ago Bob Casebolt, my constant diving buddy, his wife Cynthia, my wife Gloria and I planned the coming year to vacation in La Paz. We read stories in "Skin Diver", talked to divers who had been in the area and built our enthusiasm to a peak. On the evening of July 12th we landed in La Paz after a pleasant flight on a Trans Mar de Cortez DC-3 which stopped at Ensenada, Santa Rosalia and Loreto. We had reservations at the La Perla hotel.

Early the next morning after breakfast in the outside patio we started investigating diving possibilities. The first person we met was a taxicab driver named Jorge who seems to be quite a local character and does speak English. Jorge knows the coast quite well and we spent the next two days going by taxi along the coast south of La Paz.

We paid \$15.00 a day, took our lunch-

es (packed by the hotel) and stayed out all day. The first day was spent diving at La Sorpresa and El Saltillo. The next day Bahia de los Muertos was our first stop and this was a perfect diving spot. There is shade, a terrace with stone steps to the water, and warm (83°), clear (50 ft.) water and of course multitudes of fish.

After lunch we dived at a shark camp. On the beach were a Manta, six or seven (6-8 ft) sharks and a marlin the fisherman had harpooned that morning. Bob and I were in the water looking for golden cabrillo (the girls decided to shell hunt that afternoon), while the fishermen were harpooning, unknown to us, sharks about 100 yards away. The shark meat is dried and salted, it seems to be one of the main foods of the poor people.

On Monday evening Jorge introduced us to Dick Adcock and his petite wife Mary Lou. Dick is from Santa Monica, Calif., and has opened a diving store and charter service for divers. He has a 36 foot landing craft with a ramp about four feet wide in the bow. It is diesel powered and covered with nylon over pipe framing to keep out the scorching sun. This boat is all room and the perfect diving boat. Dick is a credit to skin divers and Americans in that area. He has available lungs and good air as well as the knowledge, L. A.

(Continued on page 38)



Chuck and Bob were extremely interested in the catch of the shark fishermen. They found out later that the catch was made about 100 yards from where they were skin diving.

California Council of Diving Clubs Calls Meeting

The new President of the California Council of Diving Clubs, Bob Retherford, has called a mass meeting of all clubs for Wednesday, January 7, 1959. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. in the North American Aircraft Recreation Hall in Downey, California. This facility is located approximately three blocks North of Imperial on Woodward and is on the West side of the street.

Bob, holding his first official general meeting of the Council, requests that all clubs be represented by a delegate at this important meeting.

Some of the topics to be discussed are: National Convention, state legislation, beach access and the Council agenda for 1959. ➤

Civilians May Use Pressure Chamber

The Royal Canadian Navy has announced that its recompression chamber in Halifax is available at all times for emergency treatment of civilians suffering from the "bends" and other illnesses resulting from improper diving practices.

Professional divers, caisson workers, "sand hogs" and amateur skin divers are the kind of people most likely to suffer from effects of breathing air at high pressures. The affliction is also called "caisson disease" and can result in total paralysis.

When treatment is required, it is suggested that contact be made with the officer-of-the-day on board HMCS *Granby*, headquarters ship of the Navy's Operational Diving Unit. Halifax telephone numbers are 6-1553 and 6-1507. The emergency facilities are located at the Diving Unit, French Cable Wharf, Dartmouth. ➤

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attention All Florida Skin Divers

Plan now to have your team enter the 1959 Florida State AAU Skin Diving Championships. Past Championships have always been single events and quite a number of our fine skin diving clubs have not participated due mainly to the distances necessary to travel between our major skin diving areas.

This year, in order to give all of our skin diving teams a chance to participate in the Championships, the Florida State Association will hold semi-finals in two sections of the state. Shortly thereafter, the top 25% of the participating teams from each section will compete in a single final event to determine the State Champions.

The areas and dates selected for all of these events will be determined after all interested clubs have taken this opportunity to write me giving their preferences and/or suggestions.

Get your suggestions in now so that an early schedule may be prepared and returned to you.

Do not forget to have your club join AAU now. If you are already an AAU club, be sure your dues and registration are current.

Yours for an interesting skin diving year for Florida.

Florida Assn. of AAU, Pappy Flood, Skin Diving Committee Chairman, 555 N.W. 116th St., Miami, Florida. ➤

Radioactive Waste Disposal

Coastal states are becoming increasingly concerned about the offshore disposal of low-level batches of radioactive waste materials because of the hazard to sport and commercial fishing. Present Atomic Energy Commission regulations allow the disposal of these low-level wastes in 1,000 fathoms of water and wastes are presently being dumped off both coasts.

Until now there has been no conclusive evidence of damage to marine life. However, there has been little effort to evaluate effects through biological monitoring programs. Lack of evidence may merely reflect lack of investigation.

At least one state (California) feels that the present regulations are not adequate. It has suggested that the regulations be tightened up considerably. California believes the minimum depth of disposal waters should be at least 2,000 fathoms and that they should be in specified areas.

The California Department of Fish and Game has also conducted recent studies on containers now used for radioactive wastes under present AEC regulations. It was found that barrels now being used for wastes ruptured before the materials were lowered 1,000 fathoms. Consequently, some of the wastes were being released in the upper surface layers of ocean instead of being stored on the bottom as intended.

With low-level wastes the chance of creating a public health hazard seems remote with present quantities of these wastes. But studies have shown the necessity of carefully reviewing radioactive waste regulations to provide needed protection to marine life. The time to act is now, before we get into major radioactive waste disposal problems resulting from increasing industrial nuclear power generation.

—Sport Fishing Institute. ➤

A Recommendation to the Calif. North Coast Conservation Council

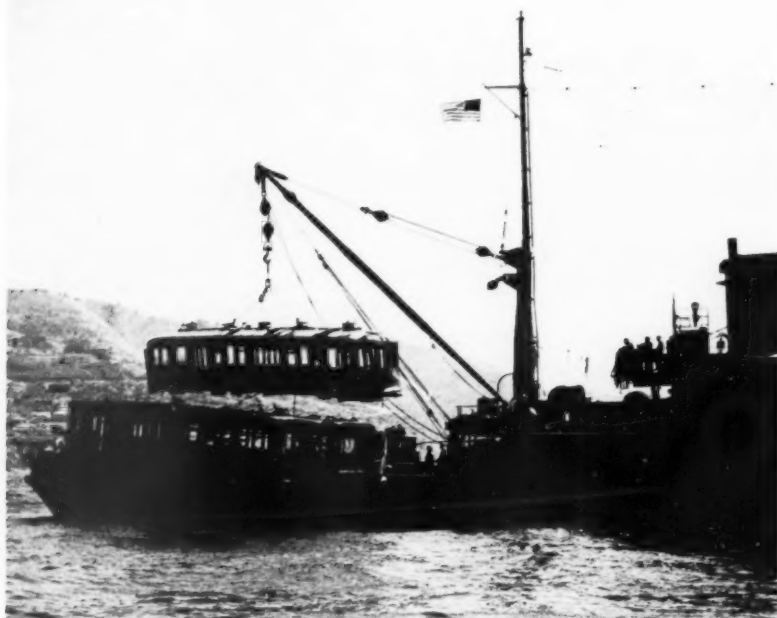
It is proposed by the HUMBOLT SKIN DIVERS that the area north of Yankee Point, Monterey County, be opened to scuba diving for rock scallops.

The members of this club have, for four years, seen rock scallops in all the areas in which they have dived, from south of Los Angeles to Port Orford, Oregon. In the area in question specifically: Carmel, Pacific Grove, Monterey, Point Arena, Fort Bragg area, Shelter Cove, Trinidad area, Orick and Crescent City area.

In sheltered waters, the rock scallops have been found in depths from low tide mark to the bottom, but on the offshore rocks and reefs, the rock scallops have been observed at depths from about 50 ft. to 110 ft. Under present laws, the rock scallops deeper than about 25 ft., which is the average non-scuba diving limit, will never be harvested because the only way the rock scallops can be taken is by prying them off the rocks with an "abalone iron".

Skin divers have been taking rock scallops from the Prisoner Rocks in Trinidad Bay for four seasons at an estimated rate of 3600 per year. This is based on an estimate of 12 limits per week for about 30 weeks of the year. We are still getting limits off these two rocks that are only about 75 ft. and 30 ft. in diameter. Therefore, we conclude that the scallops reproduce at a very high rate.

The proposed changes in the law would make available to the people of California, a natural resource that, for the most part, is now inaccessible. ➤



New homes for fish. The first of six heavily ballasted old streetcars is lowered from the Navy's salvage tug, USS *Gear*, to the ocean bottom off Redondo Beach, California, to provide the third in a series of artificial reefs being established by the California Department of Fish and Game. Purpose: to attract marine life to previously barren underwater areas, providing focal points for obtaining biological data and giving fish a place to concentrate, making them more available to divers and fishermen.

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of a non-diver as to diving conditions.

I remember one time I made that mistake. "Only nine-feet deep" was the assuring answer to my question about diving conditions. It was only nine-feet deep—after descending a crumbling 20-foot narrow shaft down a broken ladder into a racing current to repair a stuck gate valve.

Always cover the cost of a tender or fellow diver. Don't ever try to tackle an underwater job alone.

Another thing, don't set the price too low. You'll be cutting your own throat as well as other divers'. If you establish a precedent of low rates, word will get around, and neither you nor anyone else will be able to charge a fair rate. You are a specialist. You have the know-how and expensive equipment. You have a right to charge accordingly. The following chart can be your guide.

PRICE SCHEDULE FOR SCUBA DIVER WORK

PART ONE: Underwater recovery of object/s. Prices based on value of object/s recovered and considering risk to diver. In exceptional cases where special equipment or extra personnel is needed additional charge will be made for same. Diver has option of charging extra when conditions are hazardous. *(See definitions). Ten cents per mile will be charged for transportation of diver/s and equipment in automobile. Diver/s paid for time on location. One hour minimum charge.

Percentage of
Value of
Object Recovered
Charged for
Recovery

Minimum
Charge
Per Hr.
If Not
Recovered

Conditions

Good	15% (min. chrg. 15.00)	10.00
Poor	20% (min. chrg. 25.00)	25.00
Hazardous	30% (min. chrg. 75.00)	50.00

PART TWO: Working underwater. (For engineering firms, marine salvage, city, state or federal depts., etc.) Inspection of and/or cleaning or repairing of underwater installations such as screens, piers, pipes, dams, etc. Charge will be made for special equipment at rates standard for such equipment when used for such purpose. (Trucks, cranes, barges, etc.) Extra charge for extra personnel. One hour minimum charge.

SCHEDULE "A"

(inspection, cleaning, etc.)

Conditions	Per Diver Hour	Minimum if "No Cure"
Good	\$25.00	\$15.00
Fair	\$35.00	\$20.00
Poor	\$50.00	\$25.00
Bad	\$75.00	\$40.00
Hazardous	\$100.00	\$75.00

SCHEDULE "B"

(attaching cables, binding, stopping small leaks, etc.)

Conditions	Per Diver Hour	Minimum if "No Cure"
Good	\$35.00	\$20.00
Fair	\$45.00	\$25.00
Poor	\$60.00	\$35.00
Bad	\$85.00	\$50.00
Hazardous	\$125.00	\$75.00

SCHEDULE "C"

(salvages, shoring up, pipe laying, foundations, etc.)

Conditions	Per Diver Hour	Minimum if "No Cure"
Good	\$40.00	\$30.00
Fair	\$60.00	\$40.00
Poor	\$75.00	\$50.00
Bad	\$100.00	\$65.00
Hazardous	\$150.00	\$85.00

Add 75% of rate per 1 diver per hour for each additional helper diver per hour working simultaneously.

Above prices to cover expenses of diver such as tenders, compressed air, wear and tear of diver's equipment. Divers retain right to determine condition, also to charge additional for extra risk.

*DEFINITIONS: (All below based on clear bright daylight. If overcast "good" may become "fair", etc. If stormy or winter "good" may become "poor", etc.)

GOOD CONDITIONS: Clear water, firm bottom with min. of weeds or obstructions, very little current, 10 to 50 ft. deep —or—slightly murky water, same bottom, 1 to 20 ft. deep, no current.

FAIR CONDITIONS: Clear water, mud or weed bottom, 10 to 50 ft. deep, moderate current—or—slightly murky water, firm bottom, 30 to 50 ft. deep, little current—or—clear water, firm bottom, 50 to 100 ft. deep.

POOR CONDITIONS: Clear, 100 to 150 ft. deep, semi-firm bottom.

BAD CONDITIONS: Slightly murky water, strong current, 30 to 50 ft. deep, snags & obstruct.

HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS: Where tide, currents, snags, bad visibility, ice, etc. endanger diver.

Investigation — Recovery — Repairs — Cleaning

How Much Should You Charge?

By Gene Parker



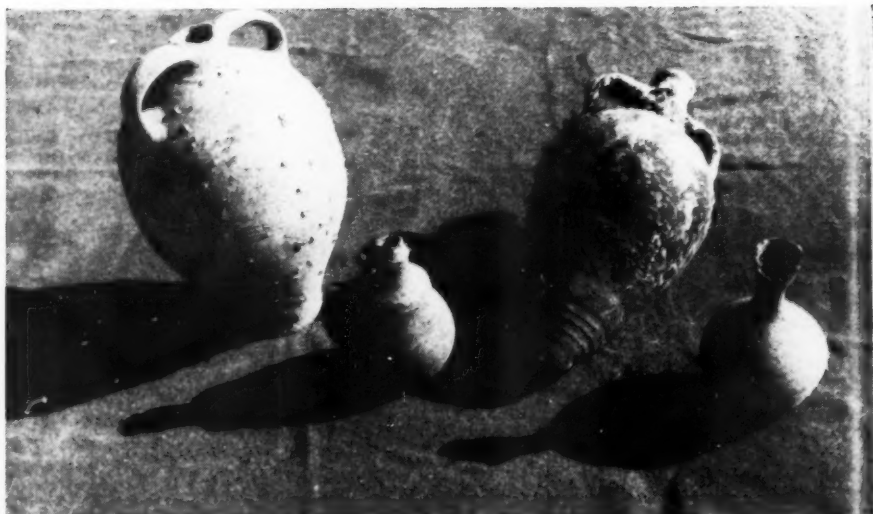


The gymnasium at Salamis, Cyprus. In the foreground is one of the many shops that surrounded the main building, outlined by the standing columns.

CYPRUS and EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN EXPEDITION

By G. GORE

ENGLAND



Antiquities recovered by the team included (L-R) a Turkish Amphora and a small Turkish Juglet of approximately the 15th Century A.D.; a Roman Amphora dating from about 100 A.D.; and another 15th Century Turkish Juglet.

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IN THE Spring of 1955, the Cypress District Sub-Aqua Club invited a team of British divers to explore the "sunken" city of Salamis, five miles north of Famagusta on the East Coast of Cyprus.

During April, we made up a team of four—Maurice Wellham, 27, a marine surveyor, Harry Sochart, 26, a salesman from Scotland, Michael Field, 23, a clerk, and yours truly, aged 18 and just out of school. My three companions left their jobs and I managed to obtain deferment from my military service. Our equipment, besides the usual flippers and masks, consisted of two twin and a single cylinder "Aqua-Lung," a Leica II with flash and a Victor 16 mm. cine camera, both in underwater cases, three suits and a Cressi "Torpédine" gun.

Our aims, though not too ambitious, since we were financing the venture ourselves, were to make a complete survey of the seaward side of Salamis, to map any ruins found, and to co-operate with the Antiquities Department who were excavating the landward side of the city.

Early June saw us camped out near Salamis in four tents, with a plethora of camping gear, including "tables, folding, officers for use of" and "ladles, large, cooks for use of," all very kindly loaned us by the Army (unfortunately, the cook was not included). Michael and I had already been in Cyprus a month and had lost our share of skin, so we were able to sit back and laugh as the others lobstered and peeled.

We started our work at Salamis almost immediately, and we were soon spending seven or eight consecutive hours in the water, swimming in line abreast from the shore a mile out to sea, then wheeling and returning. I was the Expedition's hunter, Maurice and Harry were the cameramen, and Michael was the odd job man, carrying any necessary spares and equipment. We found a reef half a mile out, twelve fathoms down, and soon Harry and I were able to come within camera and gun range of it. It quickly provided much of our food, including grouper, pig (or trigger) fish, sting-ray steak and the occasional mouth-watering glimpse of turtle soup, swimming off into the distance.

Near the beginning of one of the sweeps, in about 30 ft. of water, I saw the neck, handles and shoulders of what I hoped to be a complete amphora (an earthenware container used as the all-purpose "packing-case" for transportation and storage of grain, wine, oils, etc., and still in use today). I cleared some of the surrounding sand and found that it was indeed in perfect condition. My persistent activity, in the one place, attracted the others and Harry and I, diving in turns, managed to free the "pot", but the four of us did not have enough buoyancy to raise it to the surface, even with the aid of ropes—so we carried it across the bottom to



Gore prepares the hungry eel for the Museum at the Red Sea Biological Station. The big lump in the stomach of the eel was supposed to be the diver's dinner, a plump snapper, taken off the spear.

the shallows, where we emptied the accumulated sand and lovingly carried our first trophy ashore. Mr. Megaw, the Director of Antiquities, classified it as Hellenistic, i.e. about 200 B.C. We found several more amphorae, then one day, a deposit of Roman and Greek coins in a rock-fault just off-shore—possibly carried there by the receding tidal wave that followed the earth-quake in 342 A.D.

We found the Cypriots to be the most kind-hearted and hospitable of people, despite the troubles which were just getting under way, and when we toured the other ancient sites round the coast, we were able to leave our camp, tent-sides rolled up, and nothing would be missing on our return, sometimes two weeks later—a high tribute, indeed.

During August we did some salvage work on a wrecked troop-ship and a damaged jetty for the Branco brothers of Famagusta, who own a skin diving store and salvage firm—useful contacts for any visiting enthusiasts.

In September, after a large farewell barbecue, we moved to a house in Famagusta, lent to us by a Greek Cypriot. On the morning of the 16th disaster struck. Harry was killed in the Harbour, whilst diving with me. We were both using oxygen sets and became separated in the very dirty water. The search carried on until dusk, but it was not until the following morning that we found his body in twelve feet of water. His oxygen bottle was still half-full, and the soda-lime had been taken from a sealed tin before the dive. The post-mortem revealed that there was no water in Harry's

(Continued on page 24)

CYPRUS

(Continued from page 23)

lungs and that his death was due to asphyxiation from carbon dioxide poisoning.

After attending to the depressing formalities of having Harry's body flown home, we decided to carry on regardless and recommenced our work, this time off Famagusta Harbour, where we found many "modern" Turkish jugs of the 13th and 14th centuries A.D., and a Roman wreck in two fathoms. The only signs of the tragedy were layers of broken amphorae (sherd) and roofing tiles, under which nestled a few complete amphorae of the 2nd-4th centuries A.D., which we raised.

During October, we decided that the Cypriot waters were getting too chilly for any self-respecting divers, so we set about getting down to the Red Sea. We sailed for Port Said on October 27th, stopped two days at Beirut and were in Egypt early in November. After a brief stay at the R.A.F. Sailing Club in Ismailia, we moved on to Cairo, but it was nearly the end of the month before we found an officer willing and able to issue the necessary military "desert-passes", since the Red Sea coast is a restricted area. We were stony broke, but the Anglo-Egyptian Oil Company took us under their wing, putting at our disposal transport and the Company's guest house at Hurgada, an oil-field some three hundred miles down the Coast. They also arranged to have us back in Cairo in time for our lecture at the British Council just before Christmas. We were given much useful information on the diving in the area by George Wlandi, of 99 Malika, Cairo.

Our introduction to our goal was a little unexpected, to say the least. Without bothering to test the sea temperature, we jumped straight off the jetty at Cairo University's Marine Biological Station (where Eugenie Clarke worked) and immediately wished we were back in the "chilly" Cypriot waters—it was freezing! Thawing out enough to open our eyes, we found ourselves the focal point in a teeming shoal of sardines. We had a theoretical knowledge of the Red Sea gleaned from Cousteau and Quilici, but it was not until we saw for ourselves the highly coloured fish of all shapes and sizes flitting in and out of the equally variegated corals, that we realized we had indeed arrived in the happy hunting ground of all underwater enthusiasts.

On our return to the jetty, we were taken to meet a Dr. Saunders, an American—imagine our surprise when we were introduced to a most charming and attractive lady, who was working at Cairo University on a Fulbright Scholarship. Her work, we were interested to learn, was to remove some blood from the hearts of fish, take blood counts and compare the organisms with those of human diseases. The next day, suitably clad in sweaters and rubber suits, we again swam along the reefs near the Biological Station and on our return to shore, I proudly presented Dorothy Saunders with five fish, to be met with the good-natured complaint that I had shot them all through the heart, and would I kindly hit them elsewhere in future!

For the next few days we went further afield, and some twenty miles down the coast at Dishet-el-Dhaba we first encountered the notorious Red Sea sharks. These we intended to photograph, but they were abjectly camera shy. We used all the much advocated tricks of attracting them, but they refused to be lured within camera range, and scorned alike wounded fish, blood and succulent pieces of meat. They just carried on their parade fifty feet below; the odd one occasionally showing a disdainful interest, but always beating a hasty retreat before coming too close. They had an exasperating knack of sensing my presence, even when I used oxygen and concealed myself behind a lump of coral. We did eventually get some hundred feet of colour film,

but this success was wholly due to chance meetings and Maurice's quick reactions. Unfortunately, the entire reel and the camera were ruined when the case flooded. Our respect for the "King of the Seas" rapidly waned, and we soon came to regard him merely as the slightly unreliable scavenger he is. The biggest shark we saw was an eighteen foot black-fin, but there were many smaller ones including the odd Mako and a Hammerhead. Much to my chagrin, I never got within killing range, so my pet ambition is still unfulfilled. During this period, our camera was always in action but only within skin diving range (this was because we had no compressor, and had to conserve our five air-tanks).

One day, in search of more exciting photographs and a "big fish" for the Biological Stations Museum, we decided to wear our "lungs" to explore a deeper reef which we knew to be both colourful and well stocked with the "big boys". Obviously other divers had been before us, as some of the fish were badly battle-scarred and a twisted harpoon lay on the sand at the foot of the reef—needless to say, the inhabitants were gun-shy, and their tail beats were distinctly audible as they took themselves out of harm's way. One grouper, well over a hundred pounds, was a little slow off the mark, and I shot him in the head; I might just as well have saved myself the trouble, as he swam on regardless, wrenching the harpoon from his head and twisting it into a neat S-bend as he rocketed into his cave. There was nothing slow about him now, as he did a smart "about turn" and wedged himself in the entrance, facing me. Michael handed me the only spare shaft, and I shot him point blank through the right eye. I now had the enjoyable (?) task of winking him out. His left support was a relatively thin pillar of coral which, two air-tanks and much hacking and swearing later, gave away. Seeing his stronghold now untenable, the grouper didn't wait, but zoomed over my head, leaving me holding a snapped harpoon. Despite the now almost empty aqua-lung, I followed his somewhat punch-drunk progress, only to see him find an impenetrable grave in a rock and coral fortress—a sad end for so fine an adversary.

Our days in the Red Sea were now few, but one other adventure befell us—I shot a nice plump snapper, which immediately wedged itself in a cleft. Before I could free him, a large Moray appeared on the scene and started to eat our supper! Determined to be revenged, I again collected a spare harpoon from Michael, and went back to find the Moray had finished his ill-gotten meal and was going off to digest it. I shot him in the head, and handed the corpse to Maurice who was going ashore. Half way it recovered and started thrashing about. Maurice was unwittingly taken for a ride, in this case literally, as the thing just swam away with him despite his frantic attempts to restrain it. To complicate matters, our precious Leica was bumping alarmingly along the coral shallows. After a brief struggle, he managed to find his feet, and on being introduced to fresh air, the corpse once again died, and is now on exhibit in the Museum.

Our impending return to Cairo made us forsake diving, and saw us feverishly packing our equipment, making room for our trophies, which now included a three foot turtle shell, classifying our catches with Dorothy Saunders, and drafting our lecture. It was with very heavy hearts that we left the Red Sea, our Elysium for so short but enjoyable a time, to return to the hum-drum life of the less fortunate. After giving several lectures and writing newspapers articles, we made enough money to pay our bills and return to Cyprus, where we wound up our affairs. Maurice and Michael returned to England to give lectures, and I stayed on to join the Cyprus Police and dive for the Government.

So ended the Cyprus and Eastern Mediterranean Underwater Expedition, 1955. ➤

A day of . . .

HALIBUT DIVING AT BODEGA BAY

By JERRY BASTIAN



Jack Tees and Jerry Bastian with a full day's catch. Halibut weigh 21, 28 and 40 pounds. Jerry explains the tricks of flatfish hunting in the article.

It was early morning. The sky in the east was splashed with the colors of a beautiful sunrise as I drove north across the Golden Gate bridge with a feeling of eager anticipation just to see once again those tremendous halibut of Bodega Bay. I was to rendezvous in San Rafael with two diving companions, Jack Tees and Buster Morrice, both excellent divers from the Oakland Eel Club.

About a half hour later we were all together, switched diving gear to Jack's little Morris Minor, and then were off again for Bodega Bay. This halibut paradise is located about 60 miles north of San Francisco.

We arrived at the breakwater just in time for the outgoing slack tide. Jack was the first out of the car to see the water condition. He let out a jubilant yell and we all knew we were in for clear water. The water proved to have about 10 feet of visibility, which was encouraging, as some day's visibility would be only two to three feet.

Suits were on and we were in the water within minutes, spreading out in different directions, as each of us had our favorite spot. But it has proved from experience that there is really no special spot for these critters to congregate. However, in this area we see a greater number of halibut in the vicinity of the current, that is, the bottleneck formed by the two parallel breakwaters (which is the mouth of Bodega Harbor), rather than outside in quieter water. But still one never knows. They can be anywhere from very shallow water to the deeper channel. Just keep your eyes alert.

Jack and Buster set out for the red buoy which is in the harbor side of the breakwaters and I started searching in the sandy channel between the breakwaters, swimming oceanward. I worked my way along, scanning the desert like bottom carefully, occasionally spotting

a moon-snail, a market crab, or a starry flounder. When I reached the end of the breakwater the visibility was considerably less so I turned and headed back up the channel, this time diving closer to the breakwater in shallower water.

Tide was now starting to turn and run back in, which made for easy movement. Also that warm sun was reflecting off the sandy bottom so brightly. Then it happened! Over to my left I saw a monstrous tan colored shape of Mr. Halibut, blending in almost perfectly with the texture and coloration of the sandy bottom. In an instant my arbalette shaft was displacing water and on its way for a direct hit. I always aim about six inches behind the gills in good solid meat.

The halibut was off like a rocket and my cord jerked taut. I was then pulled for my fastest 30 seconds underwater. What a wonderful feeling to be towed like that by a fish! Then the old bruiser settled down and I surfaced for that craved breath of air. My heart was pounding in my chest and deep breathing seemed not to lessen it, for the

excitement at this stage was tremendous. I knew the fish was resting on the bottom and this was my chance to dive down, make sure the shaft was completely through him and then grab him by the gills.

This is the one great advantage a diver has over Mr. Halibut, since he is strictly a bottom dweller he lies quiet much of the time and when speared has the characteristic of stopping to rest between his sudden bursts of power.

So, down I dived, hoping that my shaft had penetrated completely through the fish. I followed my cord down and saw the shaft was nicely through, with both barbs open. I then grabbed him securely by the gills and surfaced. What a good feeling! On the way to shore he gave several powerful, but fruitless, efforts to free himself. You can bet I hung on tight! This fella weighed in at 40 pounds.

Jack and Buster were already on shore eating lunch and admiring Jack's catch of two chunky halibut, a 21 and a 28 pounder. Poor Buster didn't even see one this day, but that's how it goes with this halibut diving.

Some days we will spend many hours in the water, searching that sandy bottom, without seeing even a sand-dab. Then on a lucky day we may see several halibut, but getting a good shot is still another story. That old flatfish must lie there long enough for you to get a shaft in him and so many times he is off just as you recognize him, leaving you in a cloud of sand. Also Mr. Halibut has a tremendous ability of camouflage. Not only can he change his color to blend in with the surrounding sand, but also many times he is partially or completely buried in the sand with only the eyes and mouth protruding.

Try this type of diving sometime. Believe me, you will never forget the first barndoor halibut you see! It's bound to give you "Halibut Fever."

Does your local diving supply carry Skin Diver Magazines—ask him to write to us for counter copies.

Patronize the Compressed Air Stations listed on Page 48—be sure to mention that you saw their listing in . . .

SKIN DIVER MAGAZINE
Lynwood, California

DRIFTWOOD



Hello, somebody. . .

Well, here we go again into the depths of another year armed only with old tricks and the strange courage found only among chronic diehards. In case you're new to this stretch of imaginary beach, you'd better know that we avoid fact, dignity and conformity in *DRIFTWOOD*. We do encourage individuality, chaos and the more colorful facets of being human. If our spirited attitudes conflict with your alleged ethics, you're welcome to shriek at us—but don't expect us to flinch. If you happen to be mildly nuts—you've found safe ground: we'll love you when nobody else will. And on that therapeutic note I shall beckon you to follow me into this month's maelstrom of mortal opinion. . .

Until now, we have been content to observe and reserve comment. However, we feel we would like to establish our position—as a club—on a couple of seemingly controversial bubbles that consistently break in your active little pool. First, we all feel as you do about Scuba: it's a workingman's piece of equipment. The second point is aimed at the husband/wife diving kick. We feel the wives are assets in every diving expedition. I am enclosing a picture of four participants in the recent dives during the Clam Festival at Pismo Beach. These little barnacles had just finished a starfish-grab and were headed for a pancake race on the beach. They and their speece are all good members in standing in the *Pismo Underwater Garden Society*. Some of the diving wives are even more attractive than the morsels displayed here.

PEG PARKHURST
Mascot,
Pismo Underwater Garden Society



Oh, yeah? Well, if those wives are more attractive, why didn't you send *THEIR* pictures?

I suppose we are in for another year of your dreary efforts to be clever. You have no idea how refreshing it was to open last year's December Issue and find your tiresome page conspicuous by its absence. Let's have more of these lapses—say, about twelve to the year.

CHARLES NEWMAN
Boston, Massachusetts

Oh, go sign a petition.

My hubby has gotten interested in diving, recently, and during all the enthusiasm I find myself getting pretty excited about this wonderful sport, too. We have a small bit of dissention to solve and thought you might be willing to help us: Hubby says diving is more fun deeper than 25-feet. I say we should stick to the shallows until we've racked up a year's experience. *Who's right?*

ORLA SANDERS
Sarasota, Florida

YOU'RE right . . . as usual, honey.

It's my idea that the spearfishing contests are about the worst thing that is happening to skin diving. At least, I see no reason of making a national and public issue of the matter which tends to add food to the notion, held by most non-devotees, that divers are out to slaughter all the fish in the oceans and fresh-water lakes. Florida, for example, is having their troubles and the widely publicized spearfishing contests aren't helping any.

A. E. COMBS
Winchester, Kentucky

I'm with you . . . to the bitter end.

I had just about made up my mind not to bother sending any more letters to your page, but your snide crack in reference to California having the Beat Generation and not wanting to " . . . think about it . . ." makes my blood boil. Who do you think you are to knock the only *real* individuals in this era, anyway? If you knew anything about beatism you would take a much different attitude. Some of the Beat Kids I know happen to be terrific divers as well as terrific characters.

DEENA ELLEN JONES
San Francisco, California

I mean, it's like who needs them, doll.



Here's our answer to your philosophy about keeping wives home. Judy Kuzma and Charlotte Skripko, left to right. We hope by the time you receive this they will have made their first dive.

CHUCK KUZMA &
BILL SKRIPKO
Laurence Harbor,
New Jersey

They're a pair of dolls, all right. But what difference does it make whether a guy's married to a doll or a beast: if he's henpecked, he's henpecked.



JANUARY CONTEST—Write the winning caption to the above illustration and receive a complete set of 1958 *Skin Diver* Magazines, all twelve issues, beautifully bound into one volume. The January Contest for the "Bound Volume" will be judged by Herr Kohler on February 1, 1959 at the end of the jetty. Enter your caption early.

SKIN DIVER—January 1959

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As I have looked through your skummy-looking mess of seaweed called an article, I cannot help but laugh at your answers to readers. You have done everything to discourage skin diving as well as every kind of diving possible. If you have a wife, she should be ashamed of your flirting with every girl who says hello to you. If you aren't married, I don't blame the opposite sex for not choosing you.

BILL GRAHAM
Des Moines, Iowa

Any dolls in the audience wants a 1/C Knight in Shining Armor? Billy-boy, here, has ethics, will moralize.

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DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL REQUEST: Quite a number of the teenage divers are still taking me to task for dropping the Pen Pals bit. I've been giving their blasts quite a lot of thought. After all, their subscription loot is as good as anybody else's. So, I'll tell you what: Let's have an open vote on it. Settle it fairly once and for all. Vote yes or no—depending upon how you feel—regarding a Poison Pen Pal Section on this page. Votes must be in by the 1st of February to count in the tabulation. Okay . . . so cast YOUR vote.

answer to
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me. Judy
Charlotte
right. We
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dive.

I've enjoyed your SKIN DIVER magazine now for about four or five months, and finally got-up nerve to write. I've been skin diving now for about a year and a half, and finally got enough money to buy a full-length, rubberized skin diving suit (dry). Being a well developed female, I didn't like the idea that my suit fitted me like a sack. I cut it down to fit me like I was poured into it and did a terrific job, too. Much too good, I guess, for when I put it on—my mother and dad nearly fainted. When I came out of the water I was surrounded by a group of men—all wanting to take my picture. They referred to me as "Rubber Goddess", "Skin Diving Queen" and "Shiney". Dad ordered me into the cottage and, there, took my work of art and burned it. I have wondered if they still make a rubber bathing suit that was popular when I was little? I'm now working on a new, rubberized diving suit (cut down, again) given to me by my boss, no less.

SUE ZIMMERION
Detroit, Michigan

Honey, we're cheering you onward. Get that boss to take a photo and send it along. Our loyalty deserves some sort of tangible reward.

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checked.

Kohler, you make me sick! Every month it's the same old sickening, lecherous call for pictures of shapely girls! In fact, checking back through my stack of SKIN DIVER magazines, I see that you've been making this kind of a lewd fool of yourself in print for a horribly long time. Do you really believe DRIFTWOOD needs constant pictures of females shamelessly displaying their bodies in order to gain enough attention to keep a readership?

LORETTA GREENFIELD
Santa Barbara, California

You're—heh, heh, heh,—damned right I do.

It would be very much appreciated if you would enter the following item of local color in your always interesting column. New diving club—Poseidon Skin Diving Club—being formed in the Los Angeles area. We have regularly scheduled trips, all year round, and would be interested in meeting new divers. Our club is coeducational, too! Interested divers call Burt Alexander at CRestview 15419 or write to the address below.

BURT ALEXANDER
c/o The Sunland Sport Lodge
332 North Canon Drive
Beverly Hills, California

Okay, so there's my civic duty for this month.

I wish there were some way to express our gratitude for the enjoyment my husband and I have received from reading DRIFTWOOD each month, these past years. It's a wonderful balance to the rest of the factual, informative contents and the unexpected high points, from time to time, offer a most delightful surprise every time we open the magazine. Naturally, we go immediately to DRIFTWOOD. But, then, doesn't everybody?

GEORGIANNA RUTHERFORD
San Diego, California

Nope.

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arly.

I thought you wouldn't mind a little friendly rivalry between skin diver and fisherman to "spark up" your readers! Perhaps you'll even see fit to insert my jingle which I think your readers might get a "kick" out of reading:

SKIN DIVER—January 1959

McSplash

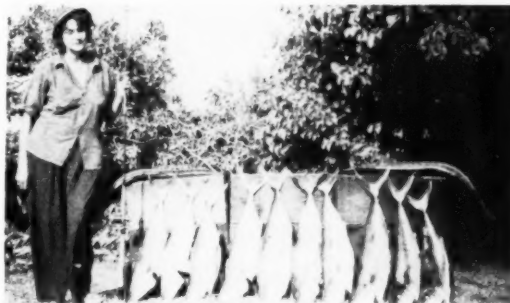


"Well . . . I guess I live clean!"

FISHERMAN'S LAMENT

I know I'm invading a special domain,
Where skin divers meet and hold their reign—
But I, as a fisher-gal, wish to proclaim,
That, up on the surface, we bring in our game—
The same as you divers of undersea fame.
We catch them, it's true, the Hook & Line Way,
And then release them to fight another day!

LOUISE McDOUGALL
(alias Salty Sal)
Encinitas, California



Sal, who are you trying to kid? I count ten fish in the picture that look pretty dead to me. What do you prove by tossing dead fish back into the drink, except that we divers aren't the cats who are wastefully knocking off the depths denizens? For SHAME, Sal?

You don't fool me, buddy. Not for one minute! Under all that phoney sarcasm beats the true heart of a genuine diver whose great love of diving and divers finds safety in hiding behind a loud, vulgar screen of misbehavior. Isn't this just about the size of the real story?

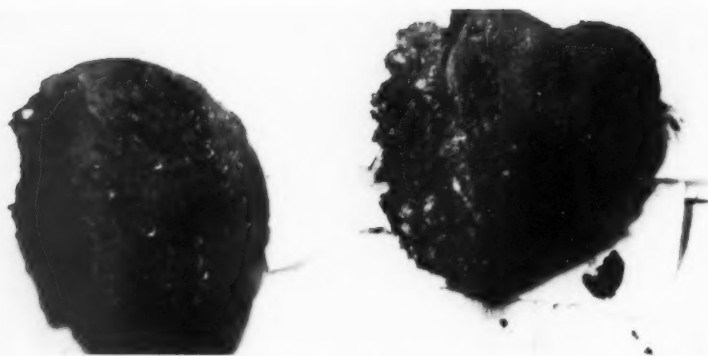
HENRY ASHTON
Chicago, Illinois

You trying to bring tears to my lousy eyes or something?

DEPARTMENT OF FAMOUS LAST WORDS: "To hell with new drapes for the living room! I tell you, I need a Scuba!"

. . . and as we crawl ashore again—weak from this demanding experience of exploring the dark fathoms of the human mind—I should remind you that a REAL Driftwooder's aim in life is to break all known endurance records, so ask your screwball friends to add to the tide by mailing their psychotic notions in to our nonexistent jetty if they haven't got any pictures of beautiful babes to contribute. Bring a note from home if you must, but be out here, next month, or I'm gonna be awfully lonely.

Kohler



One of the roving mudballs out of the "Bottomless Lake" that has been broken in two pieces by the divers in their search for fossils. The small white specks were identified as fresh water shrimp.

BOTTOMLESS LAKE

Bottomless Lake or Cox's Lake is located in the Black Hills about 16 miles west of Spearfish, South Dakota, and has long been the subject of many tall tales. One of these stories is that years and years ago a wagon and the oxen pulling it, while watering at the lake, fell into its bottomless pit and were never found. Another story which seems to be known by all in the Black Hills is that a bucket full of cement attached to two rolls of binder twine (total length—900 feet) was lowered into this spring without touching bottom.

Now out here in the wilderness we have many lakes that are man-made in which we dive, but the deepest one around is only 100 feet deep. When Bud Emery, my diving buddy, and I heard all these stories about Cox's Lake, we thought that this would be a good place to make a dive of at least 200 feet. When we went over to make this dive, we were surprised and pleased with the lake (later this same day we were very disappointed.) It is just like the Blue Hole in Ohio that was described in "Skin Diver" a while back. The lake is only about 70 yards across and 100 yards long, but much of this is only 2 and 3 feet deep. In the center, however, there is a circle of clear blue water that indeed looks *bottomless*. The visibility is from 25 to 30 feet in this spring and the moss and vegetation makes it look like a piece of tropical water that is very far from home. The temperature is around 45 degrees all year round, so in that regard it is far from being tropical water.

Upon entering the real "hole" in the center of the lake, we found various pieces of fishing tackle and many large trout; this was all in the first 25 feet. This first 25 feet is covered with moss and is very pretty and fascinating to two divers who have never feasted their eyes

BY CARROLL MERRITT

upon coral beds or anything of this kind. After that there is no vegetation, and we followed the funnel-shaped walls down. At 65 feet we thought we must have hit a ledge because it was flat and level. We started across this ledge in hopes of finding the edge and going further down. We swam about 15 yards and ran into a wall. **WE WERE ON THE BOTTOM OF BOTTOMLESS LAKE!**

Now the bottom of this spring is a very interesting and weird place. The

water coming up through the fine sand on the bottom makes the sand look as if it were boiling. The last 15 feet of the wall is made up of rock cliffs, and is very jagged and rough. In the sand we could see some type of object that kept rolling over and over. We gave one of these a push, and it went out of sight for over a minute, and then it came bobbing back up on top of the sand.

We could see just the top of these balls and therefore could not tell their exact size. By this time we were out of air and had to call it a day. The next week we went back in order to bring one of these strange objects to the surface, as a geologist told us she thought these "roving mudballs" might contain fossils.

We brought three of them up, and they were all made up of the same type of material as the one pictured here. There are many more of these "mud balls" on the bottom, and they range in size from the size of a soft ball to one as big as a 55 gallon oil drum. They all have these tiny bugs in them which



Merritt and Emery bring out another mudball. Some were as large as a 55 gallon oil drum.

some people around here call fresh water shrimp. (If anyone reading this has any information on how these balls are formed, we would appreciate it very much if they would write and enlighten us). There are many such springs in this one area that are shallower than Cox's Lake with the same type of bottom, minus the mud balls.

In all fairness to the old timers of this area, I would like to say this. As far as water is concerned, Cox's Lake or Bottomless Lake is 65 feet deep. However, we have no way of telling how deep this liquid-like sand goes, and a weight does sink right through it. So, maybe the stories have some fact to them. Of one thing I am certain, the two divers that found out how deep the water in Cox's Lake is, will not find out how deep the sand goes. ➤

UNDERWATER EQUIPMENT DEALERS

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WHALER SHARK ATTACK

By M. Young
Suva, Fiji

A lone underwater spearfisherman was attacked recently by an eight foot Bronze Whaler shark when he was skin diving off the coral Covull Reef near Lautoka on the Northwest side of Viti Levu, Fiji.

He was Lindsay Phillips, a chemist, who is an experienced underwater spearfisherman. Mrs. Phillips and a Fijian fisherman were in a boat nearby watching Phillips.

While Lindsay was chasing a Walu and a Saqa on the outskirts of the Reef he spotted a bronze whaler Shark swimming about in fifteen feet of water. Coming to the surface quickly Lindsay signalled to his wife to follow in the boat and then he followed the shark into deeper water so that he could spear it.

The shark however slowed down and moved its head characteristically from side to side. Lindsay, though still playing a pilot fish, closed in for the kill. In his own words here is what transpired:

"The shark whipped round and came for me. I fired my compressed gas gun which emitted bubbles and the noise threw the shark off its attack. Nevertheless I suffered some scratches to my right arm when the shark brushed past me.

"I surfaced and called to my wife in the boat. The shark renewed the attack and grabbed the back of my left leg and shook it. I felt no pain but the next moment I saw blood in the water. I fired the gun several times and the shark took off."

Lindsay later went back and retrieved his spear which was lying in about fifteen feet of water as it had become detached when the shark had bitten through the nylon line during the attack.

Lindsay who was indeed very fortunate to be alive was admitted to the hospital and seven stitches were inserted. A circular piece of flesh was torn out of his calf and altogether there were twelve teeth marks.

Lindsay himself considers that he was more than lucky to escape because the bronze whaler and black whaler sharks are known to be causing 60 per cent of attacks in Australian waters.

DRIVER DIVER



Cleveland, Ohio—Could be that Richard Prestis left his fins at home and decided to drive around the bottom in order to keep up with his buddies. Unusual pic was taken by Otto Schutte under 25 feet of Whitehouse Quarry. Both divers are members of the Lake Erie Scuba Divers club.



Miami, Florida—The Tamiami Volunteer Rescue Team, above, was organized by Phil Amero to help authorities in recovery and rescue work in the many canals around Miami. L-R are: D. K. Hayashi, H. Leibowitz, J. Knight, J. McBurnette, P. Amero, A. Areson, B. P. Wood and E. Klusner.

Phillips is a former member of the Newcastle Underwater Club and the Newcastle Underwater Research Club of Australia and has been skin diving for about nine years. In Australia waters he has speared sharks but adds the caution that diving is safe "if one appreciates the chances one gets."

Since this episode Lindsay lays down three rules from his own experience

which he says should make skin diving safe and they are:

1. Hunt with a friend.
2. Have a boat close by.
3. Use a gas gun.

Lindsay's gun holds 50 shots and the escaping gas makes a noise which is an extra protection against sharks. In his opinion the ordinary gun has only one protection and that is the spear.



Table set for a king—Three serving platters of excellently prepared lobster, each platter containing a different recipe. Tap the above off with first class wine, choice bread and a vegetable . . . then sit back and pity the poor people who don't dive.



DINING FOR DIVERS

by Allan Petri

The Fall season always ushers in an annual conflict, which in the circles of the gastronome, approaches the bitterness of the Civil War. This conflict, which perhaps will never be resolved, splits the West and the East over their respective claims of the merits of the *Panulirus interruptus* versus the *Homarus americanus*. Or, in other words, which is the best eating—the western lobster with its tail, or the eastern lobster with its claws. As a transplanted New Yorker, I'll take the western lobster (or bug as it is fondly referred to by Pacific skin divers) over the Maine variety anytime. But regardless of your preference, everyone agrees that eastern or western, it is one of the best foods the ocean has thus far provided.

Lobster can be prepared in a variety of ways. So here are my two favorite recipes and a third recipe which Tony La Russo of the Los Angeles Red Snapper has set forth for you.

Broiled Lobster Tails

You will need enough lobster tails so that each person has one. Then you will need some lemon butter which is prepared as follows:

Melt $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of butter slowly, being careful not to brown it.

Add the juice of one lemon, one tablespoon of chopped parsley, and a little ground pepper.

While the butter is melting, take a pair of scissors and cut away the membrane from the under side of the tails. This can be done easily by cutting down from the joint to the end of the tail next to the shell. It will then (the membrane, that is) pull off quite easily. Now place the tails shell side up under your broiler about five inches from the flame. Broil them for five minutes. Turn them over and baste with the lemon butter generously. Continue the broiling for seven minutes and continue the basting. Then serve 'em.

This next recipe I can't pronounce and couldn't spell it if my life depended on it. I got it from a Japanese fisherman on one of my Mexican trips. It is so easy to prepare that it seems almost out of place. But if you try it, well, try it! Take three cooked lobster tails and slice them about an inch thick. Cover them in a dish of five parts soy sauce to three parts sake (rice wine that is) with about three teaspoons of sugar. Marinate them for about three hours in the ice box and serve them cold. This one will really get you compliments.

Lastly I give you Tony La Russo's special. He calls it Pacific Lobster en Casserole a la Shirley. I don't know who Shirley is, but I do know this is easy to fix and is without question, one of the finest lobster recipes I have ever tried. Here is what you need:

- 4 cups of lobster meat
- $\frac{1}{4}$ pound of butter
- 4 chopped green onions
- $\frac{1}{4}$ pound of sliced fresh mushrooms
- 2 cloves of garlic
- 2 teaspoons of paprika
- 3 ozs. Dry Sherry
- 2 cups of cream sauce

In an iron skillet melt the butter, add the onions, mushrooms, chop and add the garlic, and add the paprika. Saute all to very light brown and no more. Add the Dry Sherry and simmer for five minutes. Then add the lobster meat and simmer for five more minutes.

While you are doing this, you can make your cream sauce by melting three tablespoons of butter in the top half of a double boiler and mixing in three tablespoons of flour. Now add two cups of half and half (milk and cream) slowly and thoroughly stir until there are no lumps. By this time the lob-

Book Review

By Connie Johnson

THE TREASURE DIVERS OF VIGO BAY

By John S. Potter

An exciting story of a treasure hunt in Vigo Bay on the Northwest corner of Spain where in 1702 an armada of seventeen Spanish galleons carrying 75 million in cargo was destroyed during a violent naval battle.

More than seventy full-scale salvage attempts, costing millions of dollars, have been launched over the sunken fleet. Yet today the greater part of its riches still remains submerged in the ocean off the port of Vigo.

THE TREASURE DIVERS OF VIGO BAY is a story of a group of American and European divers working for nearly three years trying to recover the armada's fabulous treasure by probing into sunken hulks and rasing to the surface ancient artifacts from demolished, mud-buried wreckage.

The ensuing adventures of these treasure divers were sometimes dangerous, sometimes hilarious, often frustrating—but always exciting. In the pictures and text, is a truly engrossing account of all that happened to the group. There is drama and beauty in the author's almost poetic descriptions of the underwater world; there is the gripping excitement of the treasure hunt itself; and there is the uproarious extracurricular life led by the young team when they went ashore. And, for the reader, there is the overwhelming sense of participating in a real adventure.

As the introduction of the book points out, this is an unfinished story—as all stories of this kind of treasure hunt must necessarily be. However, the group looks forward to renewed diving and search of the sunken Spanish armada.

THE TREASURE DIVERS OF VIGO BAY by John S. Potter Jr. features over forty photographs, three maps, 480 pages. Price \$4.95. Doubleday.

ster meat should have been in five minutes, so pour in the cream sauce and bring it to a boil—stirring all the time. It will thicken fast, so the stirring is necessary to keep it from sticking. Dish it into individual casseroles (I use scallop shells) and sprinkle with garlic croutons. Put it under the broiler for a minute and serve.

If you want to try this one before you do it at home, go out to the Red Snapper in Los Angeles. You won't regret it—ever! Happy dining!

Philadelphia . . .

UNDERWATER TARGET MATCH

By DON KENLEY

The First annual Underwater Target Match sponsored by the Underwater Explorers Club of Philadelphia was held Saturday evening October 25, 1958 in the Kensington Y.W.C.A. pool and turned into one of the finest events ever held for the diving fraternity.

Over one hundred and fifty spectators watched intently as forty-two divers representing six states made their target runs. Because of an overhanging balcony and special lighting the spectators could watch the divers underwater at all times even to the point of seeing their spears speed through the water and strike the target.

The event resulted in wonderful public relations for diving, since the spectators were constantly informed through their programs and the public address system of what was happening and the significance of each piece of diving equipment.

Members of the Underwater Explorers Club put on a spectacular opening by using colored lights underwater. With all pool lights darkened they presented an impression of halloween spooks and witches. The high point of the program was an exhibition by divers from Fenjohn Co. of their underwater wireless, the "Aqua Vox". The radioed directions to a blindfolded scuba diver as he passed through a hula hoop maze underwater.

The tension continued to build throughout the evening as the finals approached. The targets used were stationary and cut to the approximate size of an eight pound sea bass. They were painted three different colors with the critical, or three point, area immediately behind the gills. The other areas were worth one and two points. Contestants were firing from twelve feet with guns and six feet with slings. Their entire forty five foot approach was made underwater, without of course the use of scuba. By far the rubber and spring powered guns were the most popular of the evening, but the skill and accuracy of some of the "Hawaiian Sling" users was little short of amazing.

The winning contestants in the "Sling" category were: Gil Ghristos, Phila. Marine Exploration Society; Richard Christie, Phila. Depth Chargers, and First place Ed Shelmerdine, Swathmore Muirmen.

The "Gun" winners were: Ed. McGinty, South Jersey Lung and Spear Club; Jack Drain, Phila. Depth Chargers, and First place, Joe Thompson, Abington Sub-Mariners.



The winners of the first Underwater Target Match held by the Underwater Explorers Club of Philadelphia. L-R Ed Shelmerdine who won in the "sling" category and Joe Thompson who won in the "gun" category.

PISMO BEACH CLAM FESTIVAL RESULTS SLIM

By BILL PARKHURST

Unusually rough and murky water marred the second annual Pismo Beach Clam Festival held in November with a limited number of fish taken by contestants in the diving contests.

Sunday's dive for fish resulted in a win by the Pismo Underwater Garden Society by a quarter of a pound margin. The Atascadero Seapickers took second honors. Visibility ranged from about four inches to four feet.

The surf was so rough Monday that the clam dive was called off. Some of the divers converted to clammers in the afternoon and got their limits on the beach at minus tide.

Tuesday found the water still murky and with a heavy surge. There was a crowd of spectators on the cliffs at Shell Beach, so the divers gave it a try. The Pismo Underwater Garden Society again got lucky and came up with the largest aggregate in starfish. The second slot was filled by an unsponsored diver from Morro Bay, Hjalmar M. Hegge, a teacher at the Morro Union Elementary School, Morro Bay.

After the starfish dive the participants gathered at Pismo for hot clam chowder and crackers on the beach. The local Moose organization served over five thousand with free clam chowder on Tuesday, the last day of the four day celebration.

QUESTION & ANSWER

COLUMN by TUSSEY

Answers to all of your diving questions will be answered in this column by D. R. Tussey, in the earliest possible issue.

What are the two most necessary things every diver should have with him before entering the water?

Every diver should have a thorough knowledge of the sport and a proper pneumatic flotation device for safety.

Do you know what air embolism is and what causes it?

Air embolism refers to the entrance of air bubbles into the left side of the heart and arterial circulation as a result of air being forced into the small blood vessels of the lung.

Continue normal breathing during an ascent. Never hold your breath when using scuba. Air embolism can occur in 6 feet of water. The only indication of this over expansion is a sensation of discomfort behind the breast bone and a slight feeling of actual stretching of the lungs.

Would you know what to do if your unit should fail at a depth of 50 feet?

The diver should not waste time removing his unit even though it is useless. Drop the weight belt thereby regaining positive buoyancy. Near maximum exhalation early in the ascent and continued exhalation thereafter. Ascend in the shortest possible time and kick only when necessary.

What is the proper method of coming up through kelp?

When ascending through kelp the diver should take extreme caution and move slowly. The faster he moves or fights the enveloping kelp the more sure he is of fatal entanglement. It is wise to carry a knife with you when you dive as it could save your life.

How would you administer first aid for a sting ray wound to bring immediate relief?

1. Wash the wound immediately in sea water. 2. Apply a tourniquet proximal to stab site with usual precaution. 3. Thorough irrigation of the wound and removal of sheath, if present, soak extremity in hot water 30-60 minutes then apply a sterile dressing.

Do you know how and when to apply artificial respiration to a drowning victim?

Artificial respiration should be applied at all times in drowning cases regardless if the victim is breathing or not. The method of artificial respiration is mouth to mouth.

Does a free diver have any limitations of his own "lung power"?

Yes! A free diver must train his lungs for deep dives and long submersions very carefully. He must expect the shortness of breath and not overexert for fear of developing dyspnea and muscular fatigue. Some medical authorities claim slight brain damage is possible from excessive holding of your breath.



NEWS CURRENT

NEWS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE
COMPILED AND EDITED IN
SKIN DIVER OFFICES.

Local diving news from readers welcomed.

NEW ROCHELLE, NEW YORK—Fins have been taken over by the ladies, and not for the conventional use. At a **New York** garden club show one of the floral displays—yellow gladioli, no less—were "attractively" arranged in a pair of skin diving fins!

CUBA—The seizure of three Cuban airliners recently by rebels is noteworthy to divers. The pilot of one of the planes was **Armando Piedra**, president of the **Cuban Underwater Diving Association**. The aircraft was reported missing over rebel held **Oriente Province**. The Cuban government has accepted a U.S. offer to provide divers to help raise another of the country's airliners, a **Viscount** that crashed in **Nipe Bay** off **Preston** after being seized by three Cuban revolutionists on the flight from **Miami** to **Varadero Beach**. Divers will come from the naval base at **Guantanamo**.

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI—The **International Paper Co.** enlisted the aid of **Bill Knight**, former member of the **Ventura (Calif.) County Kelp Kats**, to locate a leak in the plant's thirty inch waste line running under the **Mississippi River**. The job was completed despite an eight mile an hour current.

WINSLOW, ARIZONA—Under the instruction of **Bill Hicks** of **Phoenix**, **E. J. Ferguson** and **G. J. Murray** of the **Arizona Game and Fish Department** were brought up to date on the use of scuba gear and have formed a rescue and recovery team in **Winslow**. The pair has recovered several bodies of drowning victims in the surrounding high mountain lakes, recovered a car and boat trailer from **Clear Creek** and recovered a stolen safe from about nine feet of muck in **Jacks Canyon**.

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI—Two members of the **Kansas City Frogman Club, Inc.**, **Chuck Mowrar** and **Police Sgt. Kieffer Burris**, recovered the body of a murder victim in the **Missouri River** in mid November. After police dragging operations of the previous day failed, the pair of divers found the body, weighted with chains and automobile parts in five feet of water ten minutes after entering the water.

POINT LOOKOUT, MARYLAND—The rare sheephead speared off **Point Lookout** wasn't so rare after all. **Mike Freeman**, president of the **Chesapeake Bay Skin Diving Association** explains, the sheephead weighed 11 lbs. 12 oz. and was speared by



Lee Nicholson, not by **Andy Scheible**. The fish was not the first one of its specie seen in these parts, but instead the largest taken at **Point Lookout** in the past 30 years. The reason this fish seems rare is because fishermen no longer fish for them. Skin divers from the **Chesapeake Bay** area have long been aware of their presence in the bay and take sizeable amounts of them every spring and fall. Thanks for the info **Mike**, seems our original source wasn't so exacting.

DURANGO, COLORADO—Two military skin divers, **Eugene Chicoine** and **Sgt. Wallace Johnson**, began searching the chilly waters of **Electra Lake** for the bodies of two persons missing since their boat capsized with four aboard. Three of the four drowned, one of the victim's bodies was recovered by a search party.

LAKE ERIE—Five divers were to participate in a treasure hunt in early November in a "practice run" for the raising of the luxury liner **Andrea Doria**. **Max Gene Nohl** of **Milwaukee**, partner with **AAA Salvage Co.** of **Trenton, N. J.** headed the group in the search and raising of the tanker **Cleveco** which sank in 1942 with 18 crew members and a million gallons of oil aboard. The tanker and her cargo are valued at \$500,000.

PORTLAND, OREGON—Oregon fish commission has recommended the adoption of regulations to protect the state's newly discovered abalone and rock scallop beds. The commission has been urged to adopt regulations similar to those in force in **California** for many years to protect abalone until the full extent of the beds is known. A **California** abalone diver is exploring the beds off **Brookings** under a survey contract.

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA—Members of the **Sacramento Kelp Klippers** assisted the fish and game department in an experiment in getting a count on the variety of fish in **Lake Natoma**.

NEWPORT, MICHIGAN—Three skin divers found several strange creatures while diving in a quarry. Described as about the size and shape of a dime and transparent, the divers said when disturbed they changed into an umbrella-shape and swam with the aid of tentacles. The oddities were turned over to the biology department of the **Monroe High School**.

MOSES LAKE, WASHINGTON—The search for a **Moses Lake** city supervisor was reduced to a shore vigil as dragging operations and repeated trips by divers failed to reveal the victim.

NEW YORK—A bill to make striped bass fair game for only hook and line fishermen is expected to be brought before January's session of the Legislature.

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA—A \$13,000 steel boat sank dunking six members of the **Bajaos Skin Diving Club** in the **Gulf** as they fought furiously to throw their valuable equipment onto a nearby oil rig. The divers, **Jay Albanese Jr.**, **Frank Gray**, **Fred Wust**, **Dan Nelson**, **Louis Cuccia** and **Don Lutrel**, lost about \$2000 worth of equipment. **Albanese**, owner of the 34 foot boat, said the insurance company would decide whether to raise it or not.

OROVILLE, CALIFORNIA—Skin divers **Robert Shippen** and **Roy Nelson** assisted in cleaning debris from the **Feather River** to aid fishermen.

LINCOLN PARK, ILLINOIS—A volunteer team of eight skin divers braved the chilling waters of **Diversey Harbor** for 45 minutes to locate the body of a small boy who had drowned.

SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA—Skin diver **Jerry Walter** is attempting to recover a \$1500 figurehead stolen from a restaurant foyer. The 150-pound, four-armed image of the **Hindu Goddess of Plenty** is believed to have been dumped in the bay by two men.

PLYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS—The sloop **Trani**, aboard which top nuclear engineer **Richard H. Tingley** disappeared in early

SKIN DIVER—January 1959

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September was found off **Gunet Point**. Positive identification of the boat was made by skin divers who report that neither **Tingley** or his briefcase were aboard the sunken wreck.

ITALY—Divers have recovered an anchor estimated to be two thousand years old near the **Isle of Ponza** off west Italy.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS—Skin divers have been asked to continue the search for four men who have been missing and presumed drowned after the discovery of their overturned boat in **Lake Michigan**. Divers and the **Coast Guard** have searched for the four duck hunters without success.

HONG KONG—**Derek Bromhall**, a member of the **Hong Kong Underwater Club** and **Fisheries Research Officer** at **Hong Kong University**, during a long diving trip visited in **Ceylon; Cannes, France; Monaco** and **England**. In **Cannes** he visited **Rebikoff** and in **Monaco** dived with **Cousteau's** staff.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA—Fifteen skin divers prowled **Pinhook Park** lagoon in a survey of the fish population. The project was conducted by several skin diving clubs from the **South Bend-Mishawaka** area under the direction of the **Michigan Watershed Association, Inc.** The three hour survey drew a crowd of 500 spectators.

FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA — The **Broward County Aquatic Council** is offering an underwater diving program by furnishing materials, outlines and some degree of supervision to groups interested in training the many novice skin divers in the country. The program consists of four courses for junior and senior skin divers, scuba divers and instructors. Copies of the course outlines and other material and information is available to any organization interested in starting such a program by writing: **John C. Jones, Broward County Aquatic Council, 215 SE 8th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.**

TELEVISION HIGHLIGHTS—**Bob Hope** was emcee for a special full-hour show the last of November in cooperation with the **Boy Scouts of America**. The telecast was designed to encourage young men of high school age to join the new **Boy Scout Explorer** program. Skin diving and water sports were among the **Explorer** activities portrayed on the **NBC-TV** production.

PATERSON, NEW JERSEY—Seven-year-old **Paul Grochowicz** whose 18 day disappearance triggered one of **New Jersey's** greatest manhunts was found in the **Ramapo River** within sight of his home. Four hours after the body was found skin divers discovered the bike the boy was last seen riding.

MEDFORD, OREGON—The **Oregon Game Commission** is hoping for a one hundred percent kill of trash fish following a poisoning program in **Fish Lake**. A number of new methods were used in spreading 11,000 pounds of powder rotenone and 700 gallons of liquid rotenone. For the first time the game commission used skin divers to reach spots which could not be reached from surface operations. Two skin divers, **Richard L. Smith** and **Tad V. Gandee**, took a hose to springs on the lake bottom. A liquid mixture of the poison was pumped through the hose as the divers poked the nozzle into about 20 underwater springs.

SOUTH AFRICA—True sea snakes occur over most of the warmer parts of the central and western **Pacific** and **Indian Oceans**, however not a single one is known in the **Atlantic**. About fifty different kinds are known. One is found only in a freshwater lake in the **Philippines**, the rest live in the sea, some being abundant, others very rare and

OPEN LETTER TO SKIN DIVER MAGAZINE READERS

Fellow Skin Diver:

It has become my proud task to be your National Chairman for our forth coming convention. To say that I have no reservations regarding this esteemed position would be foolish. Many problems have already presented themselves relative to running a successful convention. I wish to state at this time that my feelings to fairness of delegate representation is utmost in my mind. That all delegates in attendance will have ample time to state their business before the chair. The method of voting, district representation, group policy and etc., will all find their proper place in a business-like manner. I have accepted this position, allowing no prior promises, no concessions whatsoever. I have solicited no aid, I have not had any promises of any nature made to me and expect none. My feelings are to serve you well and honestly.



Dick Myers

The member clubs of the Northeast Council have for the past three months devoted hundreds of man hours putting together their combined talents to make this First National Convention of Skin Divers a tremendous success! Every means at their disposal were utilized to your advantage. For the "DELEGATE". The Golden Opportunity to unite is at hand! A united National Association of Skin Divers, thus affording us the right to all the protective laws of our great country. The establishment of a national group is now in your hands, you the attending delegate. We can do no more! Needless to say, attendance is the most vital factor. Without your vote, without your knowledge of the sport and love for same, no convention could be a success. The best laid plans would be wasted. Let's show this great sport our true feelings for its future, how we really feel, how much we owe to our fellow divers by attending this convention in force. The arms of true fellowship are held open to you, in the body of the Northeast Council of Skin Diving Clubs.

Advance publicity has already been sent out in the form of national releases and now is being followed up with direct mailing. In order not to overlook any club, group, council or independent diver, Skin Diver Magazine has consented to publish all known facts relative to the convention. The Council is extremely grateful for this courtesy and so states. For information of any nature, please contact (Convention) 275 1/2 Lake Ave., Worcester, Mass.

May the hand of God be at your side, in a safe journey and allow you to pursue your wonderful sport in safety!

Sincerely,

Richard D. Myers
National Chairman

(See Registration Blank on page 42)

known from only one or two specimens. All true sea snakes (snakes that have developed from ancestors who left the land and now spend all their lives in the sea) have rather long bodies and the feature which makes them stand out from ordinary snakes is the flat, blade-like tail, clearly developed to aid swimming. When stranded they show clearly that the land is no longer their home for they can move there only slowly and with difficulty while in the water they move rapidly, easily and gracefully. Beautifully marked, sea snakes are not to be treated with anything but the greatest respect for every single one has fangs and poison, some even more deadly than the cobra. However, sea snakes do not appear to be very aggressive towards man. Even when abundant they have not been known to deliberately attack swimmers.

November, 1958, issue of **SEA FRONTIERS** states in an article entitled "Sharks Are Use-

ful," practically every part of a shark has its uses. For instance, the liver is often rich in vitamin A. White meat of most species, fresh or salted, is a wholesome human food. The hide produces a good leather and the remained of the fish can be converted into animal feed and fertilizer. At one time every soupfin shark caught was the equivalent of hauling a fifty dollar bill out of the water. The average liver of the soupfin weighs about 5 1/2 lbs. and yields from 60 to 70% oil containing 86,000 units of vitamin A per gram of oil. Livers high in vitamin A reached a peak value of \$18 per pound. Some of the huge basking sharks have livers weighing as much as 2,100 pounds. However, the oil contains little or no vitamin A and is used mostly by the tanning industry for currying leather and is occasionally utilized in the manufacture of low grade soaps, tarpaulins and oil cloths, in tempering steel and has been blended with other oils for production of medicinal oils.

NEW SOUTH AFRICAN RECORD

I stood on trembling legs and looked down at the giant fish kicking feebly on the sand. After years of trying, I had finally realized my ambition. On seven other occasions I have sunk my spear deep into giant brindle, only to lose every one after a hard fight.

Mike Liebenberg and myself heard that the salmon were running off North Pier. We reasoned that some of them would take refuge on Limestone Reef and in the surrounding area, so in the afternoon we packed our gear and proceeded to the scene of the crime.

With much gusto we donned our armour and taking up our arms sallied forth to do battle. We set our course from the base of North Pier to the end of Vetch's, hoping that we would find salmon and garrick over the open sand. However, after swimming some 100 yards, we found that the reef between Vetch's Pier and North Pier was uncovered and we decided to investigate.

Visibility, being only about 15 feet, was poor and we had to dive to see the bottom. After a few dives, I found a cave and peering in found to my disgust only a few small rock fish. I was about to surface, when I saw a vague shape lying on the sand just off the reef. I swam towards it and discovered a Brindle Bass that appeared to be some 80 lbs in weight.

With infinite care I positioned myself for a shot. The fish became agitated and with trembling fins lifted from the sand. The next instant, I was upon my prey and fired for the nape of the neck. My reel screamed in anguish and I surfaced rapidly. Mike came finning over and then the fish suddenly stopped swimming. I asked Mike to dive and see if it had holed up and if my spear was holding properly. He dived and my line became slack, and thinking that my spear had pulled out, I started reeling in.

However, Mr. Brindle had decided that he was required elsewhere and doubling back, made off in the general direction of Australia with great alacrity. There was an arm wrenching jerk and I was dragged inexorably behind "my victim". My mask filled with water and I was more under the water than on the surface. Throwing my body sideways in the water and making as much drag as possible, I hung on

grimly. After what seemed like an eternity the fish started weakening and finally stopped altogether. Pulling out my snorkel and taking in great lungfuls of air, I looked around for Mike and saw him some 30 yards away. I croaked in a waterlogged voice and he swam over.

We both dived and swam through the churned up sand caused by the fighting brindle. We broke through a cloud of sand right on top of the fish, and we both got a start. The fish looked gigantic. We surfaced rapidly and held a hurried council of war. We had both been unable to see how my spear was holding because the fish was lying on its side. By the rules Mike could give me no assistance except to lend me his gun, which he did. Holding my gun in my left hand and his in my right, I dived again and fired for the back of the gills.

I felt utterly exhausted when I surfaced. Mike shouted encouragement as I slowly began heaving the fish to the surface. I would manage to get it a foot nearer the surface when, with a contemptuous flick of its tail, it would drag me under and the battle would commence all over again. After an indeterminate length of time, the fish was finally on the surface. I looped the rubbers of the guns over my arm and semi-paralysed the fish by keeping a grip with the fingers of my left hand in its eyesockets. Taking the spear in

By GENE FRANKEN

(From DUC DIVES)

my right hand, I started slowly hauling my prize to the beach. The progress was slow, and every so often, the brindle would throw me off and weakly try and swim away.

When we finally reached the shore, I found it quite an effort to stand and was as exhausted as my catch. A number of times during the fight, I felt too weak and exhausted to fight the fish any more and if it had not been for the encouragement and fine diving of my buddy-diver, Mike, I might never have landed the fish. My sincere thanks to Mike Liebenberg—a good friend and diver.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

FALL OPEN

DIVING COMPETITION

The sun was out but the water was only 55°, air temperature varied with the gusty cold winds. There were 35 skin divers who truly deserve the title as they lined up on Carrillo State Beach for the two hour abalone and lobster dive. At high noon on Sunday, November 16 the divers entered the water which had a maximum visibility of two to three feet. On the bottom it was often difficult to see your hand in front of your faceplate, this necessitated feeling for abalone in order to find them.

As the first hour passed some of the divers began to come in because of poor visibility, cold water or the chronic plugged ear. As the two hours drew to a close all divers headed for shore and all were in safely as the diving time expired.

Del Wren of the Muirmen and Henry del Giudice of the Long Beach Neptunes began to measure and weigh the catch. The weighing of lobster was easy because only five were brought in, two of them by Doug Doner of the Northrop Kelpworms.

Only 14 divers out of the 35 were able to get one abalone or more. Only two men took their limit of five abs. (Ray Sharp of the Long Beach Neptunes and Mas Sadahiro of the Kelp-tanglers.)

Trophies were awarded as follows: largest abalone, Bob Weaver, Long Beach Neptunes, 9 inch ab; total aggregate of abalone, Ray Sharp, Long Beach Neptunes, 38 29/32 inches; lobster, Tak Kowata, Nisei Kelp-tanglers, 3 lb. 5 oz.; aggregate of lobsters, Tak Kowata, 3 lb. 5 oz.

Ken Torabayashi of the Nisei Kelp-tanglers received the sweepstake trophy and a pair of Cressi fins from Healthways and Gustave Dalla Valle for the best all around catch of four abalone and one lobster.

The meet was sponsored by the Competitive Skin Diving Clubs of the SPAAAU with the Nisei Kelp-tanglers in charge of the staging area and the Long Beach Neptunes in charge of weights and measures. Registration was handled by Kate Miller and committee.

Clubs represented were Dolphins, Reef Combers, Sub Aqua, Muirmen, Pomona Valley Skin Divers, Laguna Free Divers, Southern California Skin Divers, Northrop Kelpworms, Nisei Kelp-tanglers, Sea Lancers, Five Fathoms, Sea Bears and Long Beach Neptunes.

LOG OF THE CHIRIQUI

(Continued from page 18)

er, black sea bass, and they see many rays, eels, and lobster. He organizes diving trips to remote areas by way of his four wheel drive jeep.

One of our crew, Bruce Meyers, left the cruise on our fourth day in town. He returned to the States due to illness. We were all sad to see him go.

While we were in port a very interesting and unfortunate shark incident occurred. Three Mexican fellows were lobster diving near the entrance to the harbor. They did not have lungs on. On a dive, three sharks passed very closely. As the last one passed one of the divers, he reached out with his lobster gig and attempted to hook it in the side. The shark, very quickly, twisted about grasping the man by the leg, just below the knee. The diver felt three sharp tugs, and looked on in horror as the beast swam away with the lower portion of his leg, the swim fin still tightly on the foot. In three rapid bites the flesh and bone were severed as neatly as if done surgically. Their boat was right above and the other divers hauled the injured man out of the water and stopped his bleeding. When we departed from Acapulco he was recovering in the hospital.

To me a shark is an unknown. I have seen them run at the slightest movement of the diver, and I have seen them bore in, biting wildly, being held off by only a short "shark billy", until the diver leaped into the boat. Perhaps, by the completion of our voyage more will be known.

In the afternoon of a beautiful Acapulco day, the Chiriqui cast off from the yacht club. The weary eyed crew, with five wild, nearly sleepless days and nights behind were glad to be getting to sea again after this "rest". We powered away from the dock, cleared several big power boats, and hoisted sail. We cut the power and the Chiriqui slid silently by the ultra modern hotels with their white beaches, deck chairs, and servants. The ski club saw us off with two fast boats, their skiers swooping by our bow. Across the bay, by morning beach, afternoon beach, Boca Grande (big mouth), and once more the open sea. We were bound for Cocos Island, by way of Punta Arenas, Costa Rica. The island is well known for its buried treasure, but after reading several accounts of cruises in the area, we also noticed the mention of many sharks. We shall see, perhaps some of that treasure may be underwater.

Next Month-Cocos and the Galapagos.

MORAY, THE KILLER EEL

(Continued from page 11)

they are in to be private domain and any foreign object trying to enter it is subject to their wrath. He also states that provoking a moray can mean merely looking under a nearby ledge or even just swimming close by.

This underwater expert has this to say about a moray attack, "A diver bitten by a moray eel and violently fighting to shake him off will eventually be forced to the surface and into the boat where he will literally cut the moray eel from his hold. In most cases where a diver is attacked and can control himself enough to relax the attacked area, the moray eel will promptly release its hold and swim off."

He gives as an explanation for this, "When an eel strikes, generally he will not release his hold on a fighting prey—not until he feels all out victory is won will he release his grip."

The ability to relax the stricken area makes the eel feel victory is won thus he releases his hold only to find out too late that this was a ruse.

Our common North Atlantic Eel is not a member of the moray eel family. The Atlantic eel can readily be distinguished from a moray by the fact that it has pectoral fins while the moray has small round gills. A moray's skin is much tougher and, where the Atlantic eel will not attack man even the smallest moray will not hesitate to take a nip out of you.

These eels come in a great variety of colors with many of the specie being very bright and colorful. With its bright colors, one may think nature deserted this fish that plays the game of ambush so excellently; but, consider the fact that the moray is a tropical fish that stays around coral reefs where everything is brightly colored. Here beauty is everywhere and it is readily understood why even this ugly creature has to be exquisitely colored. A dark colored fish in a coral reef would be like a black sedan in a convertible factory.

The meat of a moray eel is good eating. Quite differently from what one would expect, it is a tasty sweet meat. Although the moray eel is hardly eaten today there was a time in the history of the world when moray meat was held in even greater esteem than caviar is today.

In ancient Roman Times, moray meat was considered a feast worthy for an emperor. At all large state banquets some of this sweet eel meat was always present. The Romans went to great extremes to capture enough of these fish to supply their demands. They

even went so far as to cultivate them in large eel ponds that they built. They were able to cultivate the specie known as *Murena Bellina*, a Mediterranean moray, who soon became world famous for his sweet taste.

In order to have the meat as fresh as possible the eels were kept alive in ponds which from a casual glance looked no different than ordinary wading ponds. But how different they were could easily be distinguished at feeding time. Big chunks of meat would be thrown into the water which then would be devoured in a swirl of mad-dened fish.

Stories have come down to us that these Romans believed that moray meat tasted better if it were fed on humans. To prime up the succulent taste of these fish, slaves, usually females that weren't the best looking specimens, were used for the task. Females were selected because they were the cheapest to obtain. These unlucky women were brought to the ponds and stripped of their clothing so as not to give the fish any foreign tasting matter to eat. Nude, the women were then unceremoniously thrown into the pools. At first splash into the water often nothing would happen. Some would even consider the possibility of escape but an ear piercing scream would let you know a moray attacked and bit off a section of the victim's leg.

Soon the victim would be swimming in a bath of red water and would slip below the surface while the attack of hundreds of other eels would continue tearing the corpse apart. In a short while the pool would be quiet as a duck pond again but if someone were to look down into the water possibly he could see an eel moving about with a section of the head or arm.

The Conger and Moray eel is eaten in California while in Florida the eating of any moray meat is out of the question. But whether the meat is eaten or not some fishermen will continue to catch them. Down in Key Largo they tell the story of the two Yankees who the first time they were fishing in Florida waters hooked into a big green moray. They did alright until they boated the monster when they found out the fight was just beginning. After the moray had snapped off the toe of one of the men's boots, took a piece out of the seat of the boat and put a hole in the fellows' tackle box, the boys decided there wasn't enough room in the boat for the fish and them so they abandoned ship. After swimming to shore they were last seen boarding a plane North where the fishing is more sociable.

Underwater Book Shelf

A Guide To Underwater Photography

by Dimitri Rebikoff and Paul Cherney

This is a guide for skin divers who want to photograph their activities and the sights under the sea. Complete information on equipment and techniques of submarine photography and movie making.

BOOK #1\$1.95

American Seashells

by R. Tucker Abbott

This beautiful big book, 541 pages plus 80 pages of color and black plates, paintings and drawings, covers definitive identifications of some 1500 varieties on Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf Coast shores.

BOOK #2\$12.50

A Manual for Free Divers Using Compressed Air

by D. M. Owen

Underwater divers find this practical and realistic book complete on the mechanics and hazards of diving with self contained underwater breathing apparatus. Includes full discussion of the physiological aspects of diving.

BOOK #5\$2.00

The Master Diver and Underwater Sportsman

by Capt. T. A. Hampton

Authorized by Chief Instructor of the British Underwater Centre. Explains stages of training in underwater swimming, diving, scuba, and helmet diving. Explains cutting, welding, blasting and seamanship.

BOOK #6\$5.00

Treasure Diving Holidays

by Jane and Barney Crile

A baby story of exploring beneath the sea. Jane and Barney with their four children fish and hunt in Caribbean, Mediterranean and California waters.

BOOK #8\$3.95

Underwater Photography Simplified

Enlarged and Revised Edition

by Jerry Greenberg

Filled with facts about underwater photography in lay language by an ace cameraman. Your problems solved by his many years of experience. Many photos with film, aperture, speed information.

BOOK #32\$2.00

Shallow Water Diving and Spearfishing

by Hilbert Schenck and Henry Kendall

Chapters cover diving science, helmet diving, mask diving, recirculating and throw-away diving equipment, spearfishing, commercial shallow water diving and the ocean inhabitants.

BOOK #29\$4.00

The Undersea Adventure

by Philippe Diole

From the intrepid frogmen of 480 B.C. to William Beebe's Bathysphere, from how to charm an octopus and scare a shark to sardines and whales. Our own prehistoric origins to the present off-shore oil controversy, all these are but a few of the topics in this book.

BOOK #24\$4.50

Between Pacific Tides

by Edward F. Ricketts and Jack Calvin

Detailed pages of habits and habitats of animals living in the most prolific life zones of the world, the rocky shores and tide pools of the Pacific Coast. 502 pages.

BOOK #14\$6.95

Skin Diving Hawaii

by Gordon Freund

This is the most comprehensive guide available today on diving in the Hawaiian Islands. It contains 33 photographs as well as numerous illustrations of Hawaii's exotic game fish; telling where they are found and the best technique used in spearing or photographing them. Maps show the location of favored diving areas. Air stations, retail outlets, and professional guides are also listed.

BOOK #36\$1.25

Marine Life of the Pacific Tidal Regions

by Dan Ryan

Equipped with underwater camera gear and swimming accessories Dan Ryan has captured on film the most interesting animals of the tidal area. Full color photographs and scientific descriptions. Water proof cover.

BOOK #17\$1.75

BOOK #17-P (Paper Cover) \$1.00

Science of Skin and Scuba Diving developed by the C.N.C.A.

Everything a diver needs to know to insure safe and scientific diving. Written by Army and Navy authorities, medical specialists and experienced divers and trainers. Information on medical aspects of diving, gases used for scuba, repairs, currents, first aid.

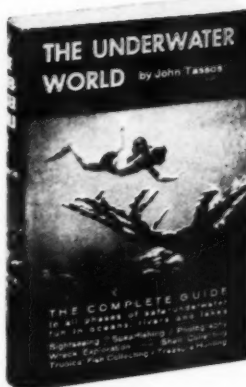
BOOK #18\$3.95

The Naked Warriors

by Cmdr. F. D. Fane

The U.S. Navy Frogman in action throughout WW II and Korea. Underwater action from Normandy through the Pacific and climaxing in Korea. Underwater reconnaissance in the ice locked Arctic.

BOOK #19\$5.00



The Underwater World

by John Tassos

One of the country's well known free-lance writers who became a successful New York advertising executive has assembled a real "bible" for divers. An all-embracing book—a reminder for professionals, instruction for beginners. Tassos captures the reader in one of the most easily read and understood books in publication. A "must" says Earl Wilson—"that's for me" quotes Benny Goodman—"rare style" notes Hy Gardner—"I started diving with Tassos" remarks Vaughn Monroe.

BOOK #33\$4.95

Dangerous Marine Animals

by Bruce W. Halstead

A handbook for skin divers, shell collectors, physicians, explorers, biologists and others. A world-wide guide to poisonous and venomous marine animals and on the general subject of underwater biological hazards. Describes marine organisms, their noxious effects, treatment and how to avoid them. Compiled after 12 years of research. Excellent information source for underwater swimmers and others in contact with the sea bottom. Pictures, drawings, maps.

BOOK #37\$4.00

Free Diving

by Dimitri Rebikoff

Up-to-date book on the various forms of self-contained-diving. Noted expert and inventor tells all about when, where and how.

BOOK #9\$5.75

Guide to American Waters

by Hilbert Schenck

For skin divers and spearfishermen planning vacations away from home. Maps of all popular diving areas with shells, fish, temperatures and approximate visibility to be expected in each region. Many fresh water areas also.

BOOK #31\$1.75

Atlas of Treasure Maps

by F. L. Coffman

Today in our world there is 275 million dollars in lost, buried and sunken treasure whose existence has been authenticated. This atlas contains 44 four-color maps showing 3,047 treasure locations. A wonderfully practical book for those who realize that treasure hunting is becoming big business, and a skin diver is going to find the treasures first.

BOOK #34\$10.00

Underwater Photography

by Hilbert Schenck and Henry Kendall

Enlarged Second Edition. Details on techniques of underwater photography, box construction, strobe lighting, waterproofing, exposure filters, etc.

BOOK #28\$3.50

The Compleat Goggler

by Guy Gilpatrick

The first and perhaps the most entertaining book ever written on undersea adventure. A story compiled when the complete equipment consisted of goggles, knife and a hand spear. A "must" to add to your underwater literature.

BOOK #27\$5.00

Marine Tropicals

by Ed L. Fisher

The first comprehensive handbook explaining a new successful method for maintaining marine fish and animals. Illustrated. Collecting living creatures and plants from the sea is fun, if you know how and if you can preserve them in natural salt water.

BOOK #30\$1.50

1001 Lost, Buried or Sunken Treasures

by F. L. Coffman

A fascinating book of facts about treasure that will excite the armchair treasure-hunter and be of great use to the practical treasure hunter who is buying electronic equipment. Partial list of chapters include: Wrecks in the Caribbean, Great Lakes, Wrecks, Bayou Treasure, and most important, Treasure Trave Law and Its Application.

BOOK #35\$5.00

Underwater Book Shelf Department ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS

To order books from this department please give the full name of the book desired and the book number. Be positive to print or type your full name and address on your letter. Send full amount of money for all of your purchases by check or money order payable to "Skin Diver".

Underwater Book Shelf Dept.
SKIN DIVER Magazine
Lynwood, California



By: Joe Birkbeck

4319 Elsinore Street
Philadelphia 24, Pa.

The MAUC growing list of member clubs has now reached sixteen. The council is actively interested in several projects, among which is the compilation of a list of films available for showing at individual club meetings. Also in the distribution of a list of boats which will be available for club use on diving excursions. Of prime importance has been the organization of "Spearo" teams for national competitions.

A set of Minimum Qualifications to be used by member clubs is being prepared. This will bring about the standardization of qualifications by member clubs throughout the council.

As a reminder to all club correspondents—please have monthly notes in to me by the 15th of each month!!!

There is a charter boat available in the Baltimore area. It is a 63 foot power boat and it can be chartered by the day or the week end. For information contact Joe Dorsey at Northfield 8-6866 or 8-7382.

Anyone living in the Glen Burnie area and also the Ferndale area—Joe Dorsey is organizing a club in the area. Joe has been elected chairman of the Skin Diving committee of the AAU.

Martin Mantas—The new skin divers club at the Martin Company in Baltimore, Md., has adopted the name of the "Martin Mantas". Look for them in the coming spearfishing contests. Club training will start on December 7, at the Dundalk Y.M.C.A. under the guidance of Joe Dorsey.

The Swarthmore Mermen—having registered their club with their county Civil Defense Authorities, were called upon to try to rescue a child who had fallen in to the October cold of the Delaware River on a recent Sunday afternoon. Bill Chapman and Phil Swaryne traveled to the Essington Yacht yard via 70 m.p.h. police escort and spent two hours in the water (wet suits and scuba) in a frantic but futile search for the child. The early minutes of the search held hope of saving a life, but as time dragged on, the search became the grim task of locating the body which was not found until the next day some distance down stream.

Maryland Dolphins—Reporter Wes Jones—The MAUC has a new member—The Maryland Dolphins. Since the club is new, we boast of only 16 members, but we're growing. The "Maryland Dolphins" was organized in Parkville, Maryland, and meetings are held every first and third Thursdays of the month at the old V.F.W. meeting room at Harford Road and Emerald Avenue. Since winter limits the amount of outdoor diving, we've started to use a pool at the Y.M.C.A. where we have begun a course in skin diving and underwater safety. Everyone in the club is interested in promoting and making skin diving a safe and enjoyable sport.

Philadelphia Depth Chargers—held their fall dance at Vitale's Restaurant on October 18th. The dance was well attended by the divers and their friends. Highlight of the

evening was the awarding of the trophies by club president, Joe Birkbeck to the winners of the spearfishing contest. The girls entertained everyone by participating in a Hula Hoop contest. Winner was Mrs. Dave Stith. Dave Stith repeated a three year continuous run of good luck by winning a spear gun in the door prize drawing.

MAUC meets on the second Friday of each month. All new clubs are invited to join.

Idaho . . .

Helldivers II—Boise, Idaho—Reporter John Arrington—This month has been busy for the Helldivers. We have succeeded in convincing the Idaho State Fish and Game Commission that the spearing of rough fish would be beneficial to the state. The spearing of rough fish is now legal in the state of Idaho.

Our Club has been talking to the various service clubs in Boise on the sport of skin diving. So far we have talked to the Exchange Club, Downtown Lions, Bench Lions, Junior Rod and Gun Club, Capital City Kiwanis, Boise Junior Chamber of Commerce, and the Elks. Speaking teams of two members have appeared and given well received talks on the various aspects of the sport, including safety, photography, diver's diseases, recreation, ice diving, spearfishing, body recovery, and the Divers Flag.

We have also gone on several outings to such places as McCall, Hagerman, and Blue Lakes. Blue Lakes is a new location. The water is about fifty feet deep and visibility approaches three hundred feet.

NEW YORK EMPIRE STATE UNDERWATER COUNCIL

By GENE PARKER
P. O. Box 165
Flushing 1, New York

TROPHY DINNER DANCE

This once a year festive evening was held at the Hotel Sanford in Flushing. Speechifying, presentation of awards, eating and dancing was the agenda. (See November 1958 SKIN DIVER for award recipients).

Len Jones of the Albany Silent Seekers (initials are A.S.S.) won the Diver of the Year award. Jones was flabbergasted. We haven't got a photo of him as he so seldom comes out of the water.

NATIONAL SKIN DIVERS CONVENTION

It would be impossible to overemphasize the importance of this convention. It is the biggest and most important thing happening to diving today. You can help to shape the future of diving by attending this convention on February 21-22, 1959.

ICE DIVING

Let's admit right off that ice diving has a danger potential. Lose contact with the only hole in the ice and unless you can break through the roof—brother, you are in trouble! With this in mind let's take a look at the following material culled from the C. D. Rescue Diver Manual.

First, be sure that you have a good dependable rope, not clothesline (which stretches) or worn rope that might break. Next, tie the rope to your wrist; (do not tie to your tank or some other place you might not be able to find when you need it). With the rope tied to your wrist, you can hold it with your hand and give or receive signals. Use bowline knot. Over 200 feet of rope is hard to manage. The

(Continued on page 38)



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Here is the first book ever written about "Goggle Fishing," now known as Skin Diving, the classic in the field. Mr. Gilpatric tells exactly how it is done and gives full details, drawings and photographs of the spears and goggles. A new section by James Dugan brings it up at date on the latest equipment.



Illustrated with dozens of unique photographs, it is not only a complete treatise on the current sport craze, but an intensely interesting and amusing book besides. Even if you can't swim a stroke, even if you live in the middle of a desert and hate water like a cat—dive into The Compleat Goggler and you'll come up with a thrill and a laugh!



Order Book Number 27 in the Underwater Book Shelf

NEW YORK NEWS

(Continued from page 37)

end of the rope should be firmly fastened in case it should slip from the tender's hands. Don't dive where there is a current unless you have had special training.

Be sure to have a good dependable tender on your rope. Your life is literally in his hands.

The essential signals for under ice are:

3 pulls from diver—"Pull me up"

3 pulls from tender—"Am going to pull you in"

1 pull from tender—"Go right"

2 pulls from tender—"Go left"

NEVER DIVE NEAR OR UNDER ICE WITHOUT SAFETY LINE

Diving near the underside of ice in extremely cold weather can result in a frozen regulator. The air becomes shut off, or a constant stream of air erupts from the mouthpiece. The regulator can also freeze after exit from the water. Always protect the regulator from freezing.

Steel becomes brittle in extreme cold. Handle your tanks carefully out on the ice and don't overfill them.

In case a diver under ice were to suddenly find that his safety line has parted or become untied, he should immediately ascend to the under side of the ice AND STAY THERE. An attempt to swim about under the ice trying to locate the hole might take him further from it.

The tender would immediately send another diver on a long safety line, under the ice. This diver would swim out to the end of his line. He would then swim in a circle around the hole. Provided the lost diver is inside the circle thus described, he can be found. The lost diver will come upon the rope as it makes its sweep around the circle.

That's it fellows. If you're diving in a wet suit, have a warm place to change after the dive. A hot drink will help—alcohol won't. ➤

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TECHNIQUES OF SKIN DIVING

16mm — color — sound

10 min. running time

\$75

A story-continuity film depicting a day of skin diving at Catalina Island, California. Starting with topside instruction and first scuba dive of a girl with an expert, the film progresses from underwater scenes of marine life to spearfishing action.

Over half the film is underwater footage . . . submarine gardens . . . marine life . . . fish . . . cancer crab . . . octopus . . . moray eel . . . starfish . . . abalone. Ideal for use at Junior and High School levels as a teaching aid to science, biology and phys. Ed. classes. Photographed by Mart Toggweiler.

Send your check and order to:

SKIN DIVER

P. O. Box 111, Lynwood, Calif.

Looking Back To La Paz

(Continued from page 19)

County instructor's certificate, to help acquaint newcomers with scuba diving. Dick has won the friendship of everyone from the little boys diving with masks off the pier to the local businessmen and officials. We made arrangements to leave on his boat the next morning to spend three days and two nights in the islands.

The first stop was Isla Ballena (Whale) a small island on the west coast of Espiritu Santo. Here on our first dive we met our first shark, a hammerhead about 6' long, which ignored us. In our spearing we did not try to take a lot of fish, but did attempt at variety for the camera. After a few hours of skin diving and a quick lunch we made a lung dive on a submerged reef. Aboard the boat we had three regulators and ten seventy cubic foot tanks. During the dive several sharks appeared when we shot fish but they seemed interested only in the struggling fish. I also swam within ten feet of a manta ray which was cruising along at about twenty feet.

On the way to our anchorage in a small virgin cove, we stopped to dive for scallops (cocktails for dinner) and to search for shells, particularly the Black Lace murex. The cove where we spent the night had crystal clear water teeming with fish of brilliant colors. In the morning Gloria fed a school of six or eight pufferfish cream of wheat out of a spoon until they became so bold they clamped on to spoon almost yanking it out of her hand.

For three days we dived all day stopping only to eat, repair bent shafts and to exclaim over the things we have seen. We dived in coral, over reefs, in deep water, 130 feet, and even at night to see the fireworks exhibited by the microscopic phosphorescent organisms. We took two Pez Fuerte (strong fish) weighing approximately 65 and 120 lbs. but the thrill of the whole trip was our last dive at Ballena. Lung diving at the reef we ran into a school of at least twenty sharks and no doubt more we couldn't see. They ranged from 5-12 feet and seemed to be of several species. They were very curious and bold and we retreated to the boat without taking any fish. Dick told us that he has seen very few sharks while diving there in past years and they were unusually prevalent at that time.

When you look forward all year to vacation planning, dreaming and readying your gear, as a rule, nothing can live up to your expectations. La Paz was even more than we hoped for and now our thoughts are for next year when we shall again look to La Paz for vacation fun. ➤

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WHAT IS A SKIN DIVER?

(Continued from page 15)

spear heads, an extra pack of smokes, a compass that doesn't work, two packs of film, an apple, change for lunch, a license, waterproof matches, some seasick pills, a red handkerchief, last year's shark tooth, extra mask straps, a bottle opener, a broken watch and band-aids.

A Skin Diver is a magical creature—you might get sore at his constant chatter about diving but you can't lock him out of your heart. You can assign him itineraries in the morning but you know where he'll be at knocking off time. His sales chart will be as good as the next, but he'll get it there in his own sweet time. He may be the very one who sells the "rich old buzzard," who spends his winters fishing in Florida. You might as well give up—The Skin Diver is a child of nature with a hopeless one-track mind. He'll do his work with the best of them, but when vacation time rolls around he's out on the water, an old veteran on the prowl for whatever may come.

And though you get sore at him, you know you'll always like him. There's something about him that rings true—he's almost too honest. He's a simple and kindly man who asks no more of life than to have a lung on his back, mask on his face, flippers on his feet and water to dive in.

—Based on Alan Beck's "What Is a Boy"

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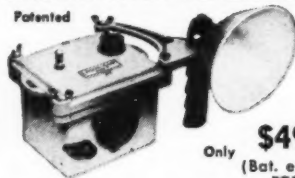
Miami (Gratigny Br.) 50, Fla.



Northeast Council of Skin Diving Clubs, Inc. 1959 Board of Officers. Elected at the November meeting the above gentlemen will have the task of running the Northeast Council during the next twelve months. Left to right are Brad Luther, Jr., Secretary; Jack Whelan, President; Wayne Comeau, Vice-President; and Fred Calhoun, Treasurer.

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NORTHEAST NOTES

By **B. W. LUTHER, JR.**

Northeast Council of Skin Diving Clubs,
P. O. Box 225, Fairhaven, Mass.

The concluding chapter to the year 1958 came to a close in the form of the Annual Installation and Awards Banquet held by the

Northeast Council for its many member clubs, November 2nd at the Town Crest Club in Worcester. Preceding the banquet, the Fourth Quarterly Delegates Meeting was held at Council Headquarters. The prime item on this agenda was of course the nomination and elections of Council Officers. Nineteen clubs

turned out eighty-five registered Delegates to participate in one of the most important elections held by this Council. The year 1958 was tremendous, and the forthcoming activities for 1959 will prove this new year outstanding. The following gentlemen were duly elected to serve the Northeast Council as the executive board for the year 1959:

President—John Whelan from the New Hampshire Sea Skates; Vice President—Wayne Comeau from the Bay State Aqua Club; Secretary—Brad Luther, Jr. from the Fairhaven Whalers; Treasurer—Fredrick Calhoun from the South Shore Neptunes.

The year 1958 was a great year for this organization as I have stated before. This was primarily due to the efforts of the now ex-president Richard Myers whose enthusiasm and drive placed the Council in a new standing with similar organizations throughout the United States. Contributions and sacrifices made by Richard would fill a volume, and my inadequate words could not do justice to a from the rostrum, the tremendous standing ovation expressed the emotions of every Council member. Together with their thanks and appreciation for the manner in which he had served them. **RICHARD MYERS, OF THE WORCESTER FROGMEN, SHALL GO DOWN IN COUNCIL HISTORY.**

President Richard Myers, in whose year these outstanding Tournaments were made possible, awarded 121 divers special awards for having competed in Council sanctioned meets. Sixteen Clubs were represented from this group with special credit going to the famous Worcester Frogmen for their out-



Brad Luther

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standing record of achievements. Top winners were Paul Davini, Jr. of the Worcester Frogmen, who placed in about every meet, gaining him untold respect as the top diver from the Northeast Council. Neal Hess, of the Boston Sea Rovers, tied with Paul for first place on the Council Points System. Neal turned in a fantastic record at the Nubbles Meet last February by taking top honors in both the scuba and the snorkel event. To these gentlemen I say, to win once demonstrates your ability, but to come back to place again and again shows outstanding skill, but most important you have demonstrated your avid interest in the sport and your outstanding good sportsmanship. Congratulations.

I believe special mention should be given to Joseph Gallant, Jr., from the Maine Marine Alpine Club, who was the only diver out of the 121, who attended every meet held and competed in all divisions. Interest such as this deserves praise, and even though Joe did not place among the winners in these individual contests the Point System is so devised to credit those with his determination with an equal award. It must also be considered that Joe traveled more miles to enter these meets, to attend and perform his duties as Delegate and Director for Maine than the average person accumulates in a given year.

At the conclusion of these Council trophy awards, it became my pleasant task as President of the Fairhaven Whalers to award Robert Lanagan, Secretary of the Fairhaven Whalers with a special trophy from his club in gratitude for the pride and work he has put in over and above his duties as secretary to make this a better club all around.

President Jack Whelan expressed his appreciation of the trust placed in him by the Delegates by their actions at elections. President Whelan outlined his desires for the forthcoming year, indicating that with the successful conclusion of the First Annual Convention of Skin Divers the members would see an even better year, be that possible.

At the close of the 1958 season, the Northeast Council had 32 organized clubs registered as members. New clubs not appearing in this column are:

Wilmington SCUBA Urchins — Nancy Peinze, 19 Blake Street, Northboro, Mass.

Framingham Sea Urchins, 5 Thayer Street, Framingham, Mass.

Fitchburg Sub-Marines—Clifford Dunn, Jr., Faluhah Road, Fitchburg, Mass.

Athol Frogmen—Herve J. Cormier, 229 Hapgood Street, Athol, Mass.

New England Scubaneers—James L. Pickett, 356 Beulah St., Whitman, Mass.

The Neptooners of Greater Lynn—Francis Gallant, 42 Baker Street, Lynn, Mass.

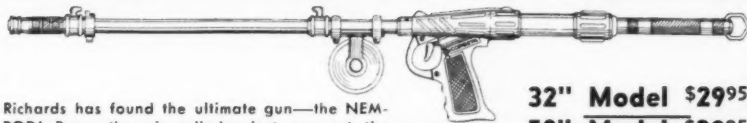
North Shore Frogmens Club, Inc.—18 Lovell Rd., Lynnfield, Mass.

Blue Continent Explorers — Bucksport, Maine — Reporter Sandra F. Johnson—The 1958 diving season has proved to be an exciting one for the Explorer members. Peter Merritt and Buddy Allen explored the shore off old Fort Knox in a futile attempt to locate cannon balls. The State Department of Parks sponsored the search. Despite a 1000 watt underwater light the divers found visibility two or three feet in the cool Penobscot River.

Several members of the club were engaged by the government to clean filtering grates in a cement inlet for the source of water for fire fighting equipment on a tank farm at Searsport. One diver had to enter the underwater shaft for seven feet and clean the grates in zero visibility. The shaft was so narrow that the diver with a single tank could barely enter, and upon coming out got wedged three times and had to be helped by his safety man.

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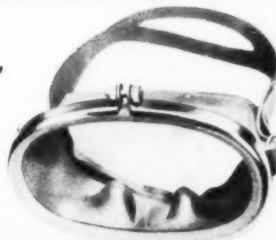
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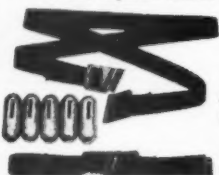
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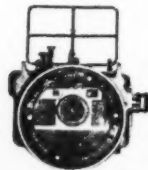


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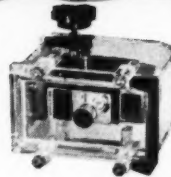


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WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF SKIN DIVING CLUBS

By: Dick Klein
Ken Way and
John Miller

The Tacoma Scubaneers were the hosts at the November meeting in Tacoma. Five new clubs were represented. The meeting had the largest attendance to date and credit is certainly due the Tacoma Scubaneers for the fine works done in getting these clubs together.

The principle topic of discussion was certification of instruction. There was general agreement on the necessity for such certification. A meeting for further discussion of the subject was scheduled.

A clearing house was set up so as to make available information on scheduling meets. All clubs holding meets should send into the committee the date they would like to hold their meet to see if that date conflicts with another clubs.

Norwest Divers — Jerry Burr certainly showed the boys up on a recent dive. Jerry encountered and conquered a large Wolf Eel. It was a beautiful shot right through the



head pinning the jaws together. (The Wolf Eel has tremendous teeth). Jerry was really glad to get this catch off her spear.

Seattle YMCA Divers — Some of our YMCA diving instructors are helping the new Boeing "Sea Horses" get off to a good start by training the first contingent. Several Nor'west Divers and Mudsharks are also lending a hand. Organizing a new club is a lot of hard work for the founders. Best wishes to Herb Van Hoose, June and Bob Staunton, Carl Hagstrom and the Sea Horses.

These crisp cold clear winter days make good outings such as the recent Y Divers splash at the Ballard breakwater. Almost every diver in the club turned out. The fishing was not of the best, but treasure hunting was profitable. Speaking of treasure hunting, our anchor recovery specialists Brower and Wilson are in rare form.

Our annual Bingo party was deferred in favor of the Council's "Star-Fish Stomp". It better be good, Dale!

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Puget Sound Mudsharks—on their monthly club outing, weren't slowed down by 28 degree temperature, chilling winds, and snow, as they and a guest of the Sheriff Divers ventured into the chilling waters of Puget Sound and emerged jubilant with four large ling cod weighing over 40 lbs.

Pat McDaniels established a new Northwest skin diving record by taking a 4½ foot shark, weight 15 lbs., on Hoods Canal. The record was previously held by Bill Mertz.

The Mudsharks, working in conjunction with Doctor Chapman, and the Univ. of Washington, in connection with their Biochemistry studies, for the past year, have been instrumental in supplying them with live Octopi, which are kept in a number of salt water aquariums at the U. of W. for observation and studies. These Octopi are ultimately turned over to the Veterans Administration Research team in Los Angeles, Cal., where they are conducting an extensive study on the salivary glands.

A couple of little known facts about the Octopus is the fact that he has two separate gills, and three hearts, one heart for each gill, and one heart to supply the other bodily functions.

The Mudsharks Annual Winter Skin Diving Meet will be held Sunday, January 18, 1959.

Spokane Skin Divers Club — Reporter Lemuel Hutchings—New members have been given tests at Fairchild Air Force Base's pool. The test is made up of fundamental skin and lung diving skills. The annual banquet was held October 28, at the Spokane Hotel. Dale Gill was presented with the Robert Van Leuven Memorial Trophy. This trophy is given to the member who has done the most to promote safe diving throughout the year. Results of the election of new officers were also announced. Any divers in the Spokane area interested in an ice dive this winter please contact Lemuel Hutchings, West 1303 Dalton, Spokane 18, Washington.



Marge Olson, Judy Lonclot and Judy Edwards, lady "Seahorses" look on as Bob Staunton gives them a few pointers about scuba.

Seahorses — Seattle, Washington — Reporter Bob Staunton — The Boeing Airplane Company became another of the airplane industries to originate a skin diving club within its recreational unit. The first task of the Seahorses Club is conducting classes for their neophyte members. Cards are issued to graduates. The first official club dive will be a treasure hunt in Puget Sound with prizes donated by the local sports shops. A major project for the club is to obtain marine life for the proposed Seattle Aquarium. All correspondence should be directed to Bob Staunton, Seahorses, 5341 Sixth Avenue NE, Seattle 5, Washington.

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On Sunday, November 2, 24 men, members of the Connecticut Council of Diving Clubs, braved a 42 degree temperature, high winds, and a choppy sea to enter the waters of Long Island Sound at Stratford in the first Annual Connecticut Open Spearfishing Competition; the proceeds of which were destined for the Bridgeport, Connecticut, Chapter of the Crippled Children's Workshop.

Under the direction of Meet Captain George Swindell and Co-Chairman Rowland Thayer and Frank Petroccio, all of the host Cuda Club of Bridgeport, representatives of 11 Connecticut Clubs assembled at Short Beach for a second try at found raising and \$500.00 worth of prizes: their first attempt on

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Geo. Swindell Photo.

Kaj Christensen, right, donor of the first prize, a Viking regulator, Pak-Board and tank, makes the presentation of Sage Gabriel.

the preceding Sunday having been discouraged by a driving rain and high winds.

The diving area, adjacent to the Housatonic Breakwater about a mile off-shore, was reached in "water taxis" loaned for the occasion by John Bombard, Commander of the Pequonnock Yacht Club, and fellow club member John Lesko who displayed fine seamanship in piloting their cruisers "Lucky Pierre" and "Speedy Speck" in the face of a stiff wind, rollers, and a ground swell.

The Contest was governed by Connecticut Council Spearfishing Rules, in effect for the second straight year, which stipulate a four fish limit, a 14 inch minimum length, and which prohibit the taking of Striped Bass and the disregarding of an undersized catch.

At the Breakwater, cold winds and later rain made it necessary to cut the scheduled two hour time limit in half. Visibility underwater was reduced to a murky three feet. As a result, not a single fish of "regulation" size was seen.

Prizes had been contributed by a number of local businessmen and by national manufacturers of diving gear. With a "weigh in" ruled out, the boys agreed on a drawing which, through coincidence, made it possible for each of the entrants to go home with a prize.

Considering the weather and the time of year, the meet was well attended and considered a success. Much credit is due the Committee, the following donors of prizes: Underwater Sports, Alling Rubber Co., Connecticut Welders' Supply, Gabriel's Gun Shop, Arctic Sport Shop, Underwater Swimmers, Inc., Christensen Tool and Engineering, Inc., Connecticut Underwater Diving Association, Mooney's Sport Shop, New Haven Diving Center, Milford Sport Shop, Lovell's Hardware, Sportsmen's Den, The Bridgeport Metal Goods Mfg. Co., The Crossman Arms Co., and Mr. Charles J. Wolfer; and the hardy souls who turned out to do their bit in a most worthy cause—the aid of children who, without such help, very probably will not themselves ever be able to engage in this or any other sport.

Next year's event will be scheduled earlier in the year in anticipation of a far greater turnout; spurred by this year's success. ➤

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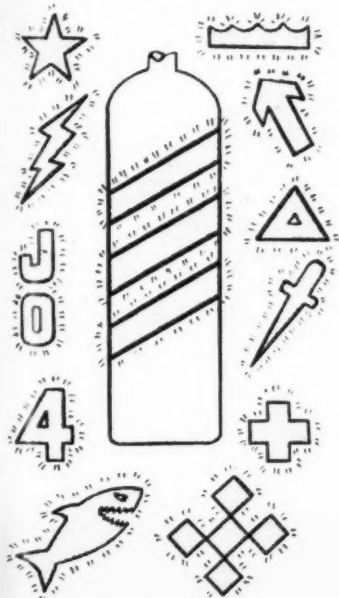
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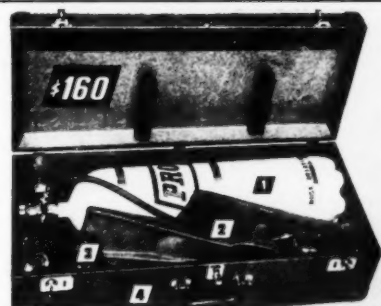
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SOUTHEAST COUNCIL OF SKIN DIVING CLUBS

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Council Instructs Physical Education Teachers

The Southeast Council educational committee, acting as the Red Cross skin and scuba diving committee, is conducting a series of introductory classes for public school physical education instructors as the first step toward formal recognition of skin diving as a part of the physical education program.

The first demonstration was given at the third annual camp of the Dade County Public School Association for Physical Education & Health Education at Camp Owaissa Bauer by Lamar Meyer, Pappy Flood, Art Keith, Dave Whiting, Phil Amaro and the lovely Jini Mount. The program started with Chairman Meyer's lecture covering the use of skin diving equipment, swimming qualifications for skin diving, inherent dangers and safety procedures. This was followed by a demonstration of the equipment and then the spectators were invited into the water to be checked out by the members of the committee. The response was overwhelming and the committee was busy until lunch time.

Two weeks after the initial session was conducted another demonstration was staged, with the addition of Frank Shulski and Les Wilt, at the North Miami municipal pool and the third show is scheduled for the Sunkist pool in North Miami.

Skin diving is a natural addition to the Florida physical education program because swimming is the most important sport in that program, as witnessed by the fact that one meet, the AAU junior olympic finals in Lake Worth, Florida, attracted 1,970 participants. Many Florida swimming instructors are skin divers and many more, although they do not dive, do not disapprove of the sport so there is good basis for the contention that skin diving will one day take its rightful place among Florida sports.

The University of Miami Sea Devils recently concluded a recruiting campaign in the student union building of the school. A display was provided courtesy of a local diving shop, and the recruiters spent three days girl watching and collecting 115 names. Approximately 40% of that number showed further interest by attending meetings and about 25 have become members.

The Sea Devil's annual trip to Bimini got under way at the Thanksgiving break, with twenty members signed up for the fiasco. A converted PT boat was provided, with those losing the scramble for bunks sleeping on the beach.

A 300 lb. plus jewfish was killed with one shot by Sea Devil Don Nelson recently. His free spear penetrated 8½ inches and into the brain of the fish providing an instant kill in 35 feet of water off Conch Key.

The Miami Makos Skin Diving and Musicale Society had its annual Halloween brawl at the house of Binglesdorf and the members declared it to be the best party since the memorable occasion when a member dived into the swimming pool from the living room . . . through the glass doors.

The 1958 party featured entertainment by the Miami Makos Music Makers with intermission music by the best bands in the land through the magic of disc jockeys. The MMMMakers is a combo consisting of all the ex-professional musicians in the Club.

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The aggregation is jointly headed by Prexy Bud Cox and Veep Benny Winston and features Cox on tenor and Winston on accordion with accompaniment by Dave Binglesdorf on viol bass.

Costumes for the party ranged from the Tarzan and Jane deal of Marty and Charlotte Anderson through the bum routine of Julie Noyes to the red flannel bit of Nick and Connie Mascetti.

Jax Jetty Jumpers, Jacksonville, Fla., Reporter James W. Duncan—The Jumpers have elected the following members to office for the 1959 term: Ozzie Park, Ervin Clark, Bill Duncan and Wally Jordan. Members receiving trophies for 1958 were: Ozzie Park, largest fish with scuba trophy donated by Smythe Automotive Service, for a 161½ pound Jewfish, and also to Ozzie Park the Spearfisherman of the Year Trophy, donated by Ruth and Frank Taverner, for points. Ervin Clark received the Largest Fish Free Diving Trophy, donated by Harry Goodwin Plumbing Company, for a 338 pound Jewfish; Wally Jordan, Barracuda Trophy, donated by Harry Goodwin Plumbing Company, for a 30 pound Barracuda; John Taunton, Spearfisherman of the Year Trophy, donated by the Golden Gate Cocktail Lounge for points and Robert Park, Outstanding Club Member Trophy awarded by the Club.

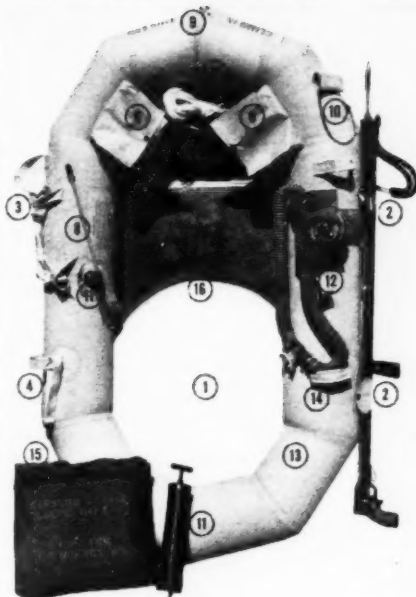
Scuba Scamps—Jacksonville, Fla.—Reporter Karen Andrews—the purpose and aims of the club, formed in June of this year, is to encourage interest in skin diving; in the study of underwater life; in the development and conservation of marine life; cooperation with authorities and other clubs in rescue and recovery operations; and to bring to club members the sound benefits and pleasures derived from organized activities. The Scamps have an outing each month at one of the many Springs in Florida. Members may bring guests and the interest is very good even though the weather is getting to be rather chilly.

Nevada . . .

Nevada Desert Divers—Reno, Nevada—Reporter Loring Persigehl—On a Tahoe beach elections were held after our annual free diving contest which was for crayfish this year. At the picnic following, 30 members and guests finished off over 150 boiled crayfish, heretofore unknown as an edible food to many NDDs.

A recent trip to Santa Barbara Island off the coast of southern California netted 14 traveling members of the NDD souvenirs and memories they will hold for a long time. Two lobsters of 14 and 10 pounds respectively, a small shark, and two ancient anchors went into the game and treasure chest along with the regular fish catch. But a night dive memory of a battle between a giant moray eel and a huge crab as watched by underwater flashlight makes adventure only divers can appreciate.

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ATLANTIC SKIN DIVING COUNCIL

By DON J. BYERS

P. O. Box 1212
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This fall a new east coast skin diving council sprang to life. Emerging from a nucleus of three District of Columbia member clubs; The Flipper Dippers, The Pioneers, and the SSIPPS (Society for the Rapture of the Upper Depths), the Atlantic Skin Diving Council has already held its first diving meet.

Attempting (successfully) to beat chilling fall to the water, the Council promoted a Fall Rodeo at a Kearneysville, West Virginia Quarry in September. The underwater scavenger hunt for poker chips was won by Fred White; the Spearo contest, where shafts were hurled at a surprisingly elusive anchored wooden fish with a five inch hole for a bulls eye, was copied by Dan Nichols; and the underwater compass course event title was grabbed by Mary Zellner (newly elected vice president of the Pioneers).

The ASDC was organized on September 4, 1958 when representatives of the three District of Columbia member clubs were on hand to draw up a constitution and by-laws. On September 9 the constitution was ratified.

Elected to the Presiding Chairmanship was Colin K. Sherrill, while the President's chair went to Van Buskirk. Neil Nichols won the Secretary-Treasurer slot with Jim Slater elected to the job of Safety Officer. Jim is qualified as a diving instructor by the State of Virginia Highway Patrol.

Operating as a clearing house for well qualified diving instructors and for coordination of training classes, the ASDC took a long first stride by setting up weekly training periods at a local pool, with member clubs providing instructor personnel. Emphasis has been placed on individualized instruction for safety and quality of learning.

ASDC will pool lecture appearances and film showings to gain maximum benefit for the affiliated clubs, share information on diving sites (scarce in the shadow of the nation's capital) and offer joint services to Civil Defense and Police and Fire Departments of the metropolitan area.

The Council wants to standardize techniques and codify rules among diving clubs, influence more adequate legislation by state governments and congress, demand more extensive research in safety procedures and equipment manufacture and ferret out further diving problems and new applications of diving techniques.

The Council feels it has made a step toward setting standards that will be quickly recognized by all members of the council and helped to eliminate the problem of fitting an unknown diver into an event or diving program.

Also standardized at the meeting was a list of safe and suitable diving equipment, to be used by neophytes as a guide for purchasing their first piece of equipment. The list includes all safety items. A list of standardized safety suggestions for distribution to area diving clubs was agreed on.

Atlantic Skin Diving Council cordially extends a welcome to any other area clubs interested in availing themselves of the benefits of council organization and which have five or more members. Drop a note to P. O. Box 6212, Shirlington Station, Arlington, Virginia.

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California . . .

Power Divers—Compton, Calif.—Reporter Bob Smith—In March 1958 the Power Divers were chartered and are made up of divers that own outboard boats. The purpose of the club is to insure safety in both skin diving and boating. At present we have 17 boats in the club and make group trips to Catalina every other weekend. These trips include the member's families.

We worked as safety boats and helped carry divers to the Federal Breakwater during the annual clean-up of starfish. We also work with the S.P.A.A.A.U. Competitions as safety boats.

At the beginning our club had a four passenger Sea Bee amphibious airplane which was to play a large part in our safety program. However, to our great disappointment it was lost at Catalina near Long Point while on a pleasure flight. The engine conked out at about 70 ft. and it crashed into the water. Our two members aboard only suffered scratches and bruises and one broken nose. A yacht saw the plane come down and came to help. Though the plane was upside down it was still floating and they pulled it into White's Landing and tied it to a buoy. The next weekend we took all the necessary tools and floats in our boats to the island in hopes of bringing the aircraft back. Upon our arrival the plane was not to be seen, but after searching the area we found it upside down in approximately 35 ft. of water. With the help of a 35 ft. steelcraft, which was chartered by the co-owner of the plane, we managed to turn the Sea Bee over on its wheels and pulled it into about eight feet of water. We could then see it was a total wreck and beyond salvage. We managed to strip it before abandoning it.

Since then we have been making many trips to the Isthmus near the west end of Catalina. We dive all along the island and anchor either at the Isthmus or Fisherman's Cove at night.

Our initiation fees and dues are no larger than any other club. Further information about the club may be gained by contacting Chuck Stewart, 1318 South Center, Compton, Calif. NEwmark 1-2223 or Bob Smith, 6709 Premium St., Long Beach 8, Calif., HArrison 9-0058.

If there is any other club of this type in existence we would like to hear from them. We would like to express our thanks to the "Skin Diver" Magazine and all those who have helped our club get its start.

Sonoma County Reef Runners—Santa Rosa, California—Reporter Al Hart—Our first year as a club has been a very fast moving one, with Ken Adams as our leader. We took third place at the Central Cal Meet, eighth place at the Pacific Coast Meet at Laguna Beach. At last count we had over 40 members and more in sight.

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Pacific Area . . .

Koral Kings—Midway Island—Reporter R. W. Furman—After a slack year in '57 the Koral Kings of Midway Island are getting into the swing of things again. This past summer was an especially bountiful one with fish and lobster abounding. A shark hunt was held in which six sharks, varying in size from 4 to 6 feet, were brought back. Some of the members even found a World War II naval mine. It was detonated by members of

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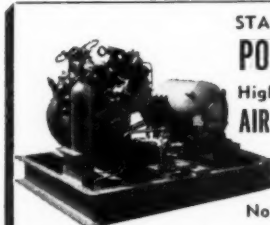
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the UDT detachment stationed on the island, with the help of the members of the Koral Kings who found it.

The big project now is to reinstate the use of lungs. To help accomplish this a training schedule and a study manual have been drawn up by some of the older members of the club. A training program will be put into effect as soon as possible.

We would like very much to hear from some other clubs. If any would like to correspond, write to: Koral Kings of Midway Island c/o R. R. Knudson, Navy 3080, Box 3, FPO, San Francisco, Calif.

Canada . . .

Halifax Free Divers Club—Halifax, Nova Scotia—Reporter Don Chiasson—I'm afraid the pool times for the training program have been changed. The club has the Y.M.C.A. pool every Wednesday from seven to eight P.M. The meetings are still the third Wednesday of the month at the Museum of Science on Spring Garden Rd., but the time has been changed to eight-thirty P.M. This program has been a source of much interesting and helpful information for all the club members.

The only future plans are for an under the ice dive for one of the local T.V. programs. Not too much is definite but full details will probably be in the next report.

Arctic Free Divers—Fort Churchill, Manitoba—Reporter Ian Bruce—Diving in Hudson's Bay is drawing to a close, and the Arctic Free Divers can look back on their first season as accident free and one filled with many rich experiences.

Members unanimously agreed on a training program to commence next year, for the benefit of the many people in this area interested in diving. We are fortunate to count among our ranks, a veteran RCN UDT diver, who will prove invaluable as an instructor.

The Arctic Free Divers wish to extend seasons greeting to everyone in the diving fraternity, and hope 1959 will prove to be a year of happy and safe diving for all.

Windsor Scuba Divers—Windsor, Ontario, Canada—Reporter Jack McKenney—I've been following "Skin Diver" for the past four years now and seeing as it hasn't mentioned anything about diving around our locale, thought I had better put a punch in our neck of the woods, namely Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

The only club in Windsor is the Windsor Scuba Divers. Anyone wishing to join the club may contact Jack McKenney, 561 Parent Ave., Windsor.

We have discovered a paradise for skin divers in the Detroit River, which is the dirtiest, muddiest hole in which to dive. There is an island here called the "Rock Pile," at the lower end of the island are two bays. At the upper end of the bays the water is crystal clear with visibility about fifty feet which is extremely rare for around here. These bays are only about twenty feet deep with a wrecked barge at the far end of the first bay and some old steel structures in the second.

Three of us, Phil Emery, Stan Horvath and myself plan on taking some underwater movies next spring and also hope to get a special permit for spearing muskellunge while diving in the lakes up north. These muskies are relative to the southern barracuda.

Spearfishing is illegal here in Ontario so we have to be satisfied with exploring and underwater photography. Diving is limited to the summer months from May through September. However, we plan on doing some ice diving next winter.

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Georgia . . .

The Albany Skin Divers—Albany, Georgia—Reporter Kay McMahon—Our club was organized about two years ago and as our club has more military than civilian members, we go up and down with our membership. At the present time we have about fifteen active members.

During the past summer the life guards at the three city pools were taught the use of scuba. The club is on call at all times with the city fire and police departments. During the winter months we are affiliated with the YMCA.

We meet the second Wednesday of the month at the YMCA at 7:30 P.M. and would be happy to have new members and visitors drop in at the meetings.

Missouri . . .

Kansas City Frogman Club, Inc.—Kansas City, Mo.—Reporter June Poplar—Two members were in the news during November. Chuck Mowrar and Police Sgt. Kieffer Burris first made a successful body recovery in the Missouri River, an accidental shooting victim. Then a search in the Kaw River for two murder weapons, again at Police request. The latter, more difficult dive was given up after an hour in icy waters, but Chuck and Kieffer earned gratitude and esteem from local authorities.

Regular meetings are now bi-weekly, with movies from the Public Library and Rental firms, and more outside get-togethers planned to increase cold weather interest.

Texas . . .

Royal Order of Vagabonds—Fort Hood, Texas—Reporter SFC Donald J. Yanda—Our new club which started August 15th has been doing various jobs of salvage diving. Eight of our members have complete scuba equipment, and wet suit, seven of our members have their wet suits and are in progress of getting their scuba equipment. We have a Cornelius Compressor, which was purchased for the club, thru the various jobs at Belton Lake. We are planning a trip in the near future to the Gulf just as soon as warm weather sets in, next year giving our other members time to purchase their equipment. We are proud of this club, would enjoy any persons coming down this way to come and visit us, write SFC Donald J. Yanda, USA, P.O. Box 441, Copperas Cove, Texas.

Air is available to anyone and at any time during the day or night. All members of the club are Military Personnel stationed at Fort Hood, Texas.

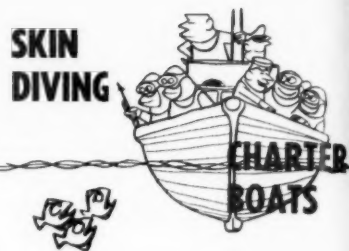
Oklahoma . . .

Bluegills Diving Club—Oklahoma, City, Okla.—Reporter Phill Bayouth—The club has recently held its election of officers and our President is Lewis Mutz; Vice President and Treasurer, J. J. Price; Secretary, Roy Welborn and Safety Officer, Phillip Bayouth.

While night diving at Lake Tenkiller, the team of Mutz, Price and Bayouth were underway on their return run offshore from Brush Island when Mutz and Price found Bayouth's underwater watch at 30 feet and returned the watch while submerged. You can imagine the confusion and surprise when the owner hadn't realized he had lost his wrist watch!

Now to make this situation come out even, Phill and Sue Bayouth were diving as a team at Possum Kingdom Lake during the Southwestern Spearfishing Derby. They found a depth gauge belonging to Mutz who was diving with Price during the Derby and returned said Depth Gauge before Mutz had realized he had lost it!

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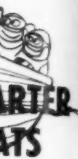
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Just Blooming, feeds the fishes, 60 feet down off Indian Head Reef, Catalina Island, California. Crushed shell fish will attract many varieties of marine animals including the orange sun-colored scorpionfish (Oxyuris scelliformis).



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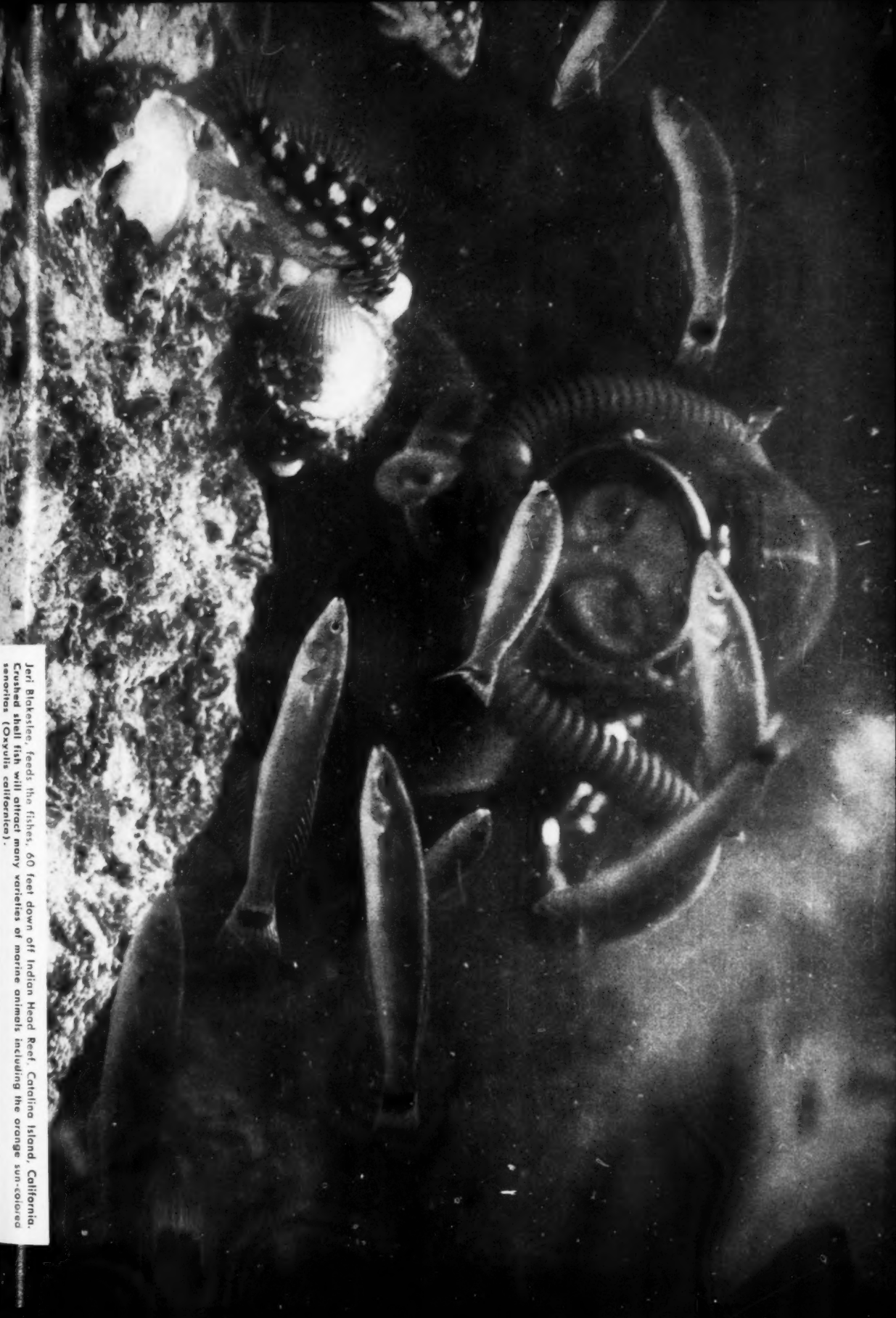


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January 1959



Jeff Blakeslee, feeds the fishes, 60 feet down off Indian Head Reef, Catalina Island, California. Crushed shell fish will attract many varieties of marine animals including the orange sun-colored snappers (*Oxyuris californica*).



YELLOW

OUR LINE FOR '59

Careful research has disclosed that yellow is the most effective color for visibility on the surface as well as underwater. Therefore in keeping with U.S. Divers' well known watchword "Dive with Safety," you will find that keynote for '59 is YELLOW.

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